



17th October 2025

Dear Parent / Carer

Year 10 DT Textiles Trip – John Boyd Factory

I'm delighted to invite your child to a Textiles trip on Wednesday 5th November 2025. We will visit the John Boyd Factory and St Margarets charity shop both in Castle Cary.

This is an exciting opportunity to see a factory directly focusing on specifics within the DT Textiles curriculum:

Scales of production.

- What is a prototype?
- Explain the advantages and disadvantages of one-off, batch, mass and continuous production and example textiles products made with each method.
- When producing products, how would a designer or manufacturer ensure that as little material as possible is wasted?

At St Margarets we will be looking at the core elements of our course and looking at how other materials are used within the textiles industry, this includes:

- Timbers
- Papers and boards
- Polymers
- Social issues

We will leave school at 1.00pm and walk down to the John Boyd Factory, Higher Flax Mills, Torbay Road, Castle Cary. The tour lasts for 1 hour and we will then walk to St Margarets charity shop in Fore Street. We expect to return to school by 3.00pm, in time for students to get their usual transport home at 3.30pm. Normal school uniform will be required and a weatherproof coat is advisable.

The cost of this trip will be £10.00 per student. On this occasion, the factory require payment in cash so please could we ask that your child brings £10 cash to the Finance Office by **Thursday 23rd October**.

If you are in receipt of any of the following benefits the cost of the trip will be met by the Academy (proof required):-

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)



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Students should bring a packed lunch with them or a small amount of money to purchase something from Denella's bakery as we will be eating as we go! If your child is entitled to free school meals, we will provide a packed lunch for them.

If your child would like to attend this event, please provide consent **by Thursday, 23th October** via 'The School Gateway' and **£10 cash to the Finance office**. If you have not registered for school gateway, please go to www.schoolgateway.com. You will need to enter your email address and mobile number we have on record for you. We use the email address and mobile number that we hold for the priority one contact(s) in our database. Should you have any queries please contact Helen Martin in Finance - hmartin@ansford.mnsp.org.uk.

If for any reason your child does not wish to attend, please let us know so we can make alternative arrangements for them in school.

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Swallow

Head of Design and Technology