



Founded 1125

Mr T Evans
Assistant Headteacher

Friday 24 February 2023

Year 9 Belonging Week 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are excited to provide you with details of 'Power to the 9's' residential program that is a key component of Belonging Week for Year 9 students.

Students in Year 9 continue to build on the work undertaken as a part of the Floreat program, which is designed to support them in developing a range of leadership skills and behaviours. Working with compassion to respond to challenge, students will strive to create inclusive and effective teams. A range of activities, settings and challenges have been carefully planned to allow all students to flourish.

Each of the trips is a superb opportunity.

Year 9 Residential Trips run for two nights from 5 to 7 of June. Each trip has a program of activities running from Monday afternoon through to Wednesday lunchtime with travel time built in either side of this.

Key details about the trips taking place for 3 days and 2 night(s):

- **Thames Challenge:** Cloud 9 (£160)
Sleeping in tents in remote locations, the river is the focus of this three-day canoe expedition: students will work in teams to plan and prepare their routes and all meals and experience life on expedition with their peers
- **Cartmel Lodge:** Lake Windemere (£305)
Sleeping in Bell Tents; activities likely to include hiking, ghyll scrambling, crag climbing, canoeing and other adventurous activities in the surrounding lake district.
- **Reach:** Torbay: (£280)
Sleeping in Bell Tents; activities have a coastal focus and are likely to include coasteering, paddle boarding and sea kayaking.
- **Howstean Gorge:** Yorkshire Dales (£305)
Sleeping in Bell Tents; activities have a focus on rock and overcoming challenge with a superb program including canyoning, abseiling, caving and a range of activities taking place in the surrounding Dales.

READING SCHOOL, Erleigh Road, Reading RG1 5LW

T: 0118 9015600 F: 0118 9352755 E: secretary@reading-school.co.uk W: www.reading-school.co.uk

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On return from the residential, all students will complete a day of planning in school and then spending a day completing a walking challenge in the Chilterns on 9 of June. The walk will involve periods of remote supervision and will be a progression of previous navigation tasks undertaken in Floreat lessons.

The indicative price detailed with each trip includes:

- All meals whilst on residential except for a packed lunch required in day 1
- Return coach travel
- Accommodation

There will be a **minimum of four adults** accompanying each group **led by an experienced trip leader and member of staff**. Our intention is to allocate places based on preference of residential location, however this will not always be possible dependant on demand.

Please complete the below Microsoft Form link by Friday 3 March.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=QKRT3Wr9XkC75IKx5h6C24qQC7Nwj5IPtA0dNOsy9aRUNTfIM1FTREFEN0wyQ1VIQVQ5QIVVRFZTty4u>

Places will be allocated, and notification will be communicated by Friday 10 March and a non-refundable deposit of £50 will then be due by Friday 17 of March to secure your child's place. Payment links will be sent via Evolve with two further instalments due on 17 April and 15 May.

Parental contributions are required in order to facilitate these educational visits. Pupil Premium parents will be expected to pay the deposit only, spread across the 3 instalments with the balance of trip costs met by the school's Pupil Premium funds. We are keen to ensure that all students are able to participate; if you or your family are experiencing hardship of any nature, please contact Mr T. Evans by emailing tevans@reading-school.co.uk in confidence to discuss how we might support your child.

We apologise for the tight deadline for request for payment on the above trip, this is due to the need to secure the residential venues and coach transport.

The Code of Conduct for Educational Visits will be shared in due course and must be adhered to both before and during the visit.

You will appreciate that the school has no control over the activity venue, coach operator and other organisations involved. By reserving a place on the trip, you and your child accept that the school has no responsibility for the default of the tour operators or other organisations and that in the event of an Act of God or any other circumstance whether involving health and safety, security, behaviour or otherwise, the School can in its discretion curtail, cancel or revise the tour at any time without recompense.

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NB. All of these trips are covered by our insurance with RPA. COVID related cancellations are fully refundable.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact Mr T Evans by emailing tevans@reading-school.co.uk

Yours sincerely,

Mr T Evans
Assistant Headmaster

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