



Founded 1125

Mr T Evans,
Assistant Headteacher.

23rd February 2024

Year 8 Belonging Week 2024:

Dear Parents/Carers

We are excited to provide you with details of 'The Value of Character' residential program that is the key component of Belonging Week for Year 8 students.

Year 8 Residential Trip (2 nights)

Dates: 20th to 24th May 2024

All students in Year 8 will have the opportunity to take part in a 3-day residential experience. Many of your children will not have participated in a residential of this nature at either primary school or since they joined Reading School. This week will equip students as they look ahead to Year 9 and consider the importance of accountability and collaboration.

2 of the residentials are away from 20th to the 22nd May; one is away from the 22nd to the 24th May.

All students will take part in a range of teambuilding activities, sports and careers activities. There are 3 residential settings to choose from and information about each is provided below.

Great Tower YHA Centre: Indicative cost: £306

Students will enjoy a program set in the stunning Lake District and enjoy the grandeur of the location. They are outdoors for activity sessions, but stay indoors in the Lodge at the centre, where bedrooms, showers and all meals are served. Activities at Great Tower include canoeing, orienteering, zip wire, Jacob's ladder, team building and archery.

Rock UK Summit Centre: Indicative cost: £276

Students will enjoy a program set on the edge of the Brecon Beacons and enjoy activities set around the Summit Centre. They are outdoors for most activity sessions, but stay indoors in the Lodge at the centre, where dormitory rooms, showers and all meals are served. Activities at Rock UK include bushcraft, climbing, caving and abseiling.

Osmington Bay PGL: Indicative cost: £305

Students will enjoy a program in the coastal location of Osmington Bay and enjoy activities set around the centre and beyond. They are outdoors for most activity sessions but stay indoors in dormitory rooms at the centre where all meals are served. Activities include sailing, archery, axe throwing, crate stacking, Jacob's ladder and other team building tasks. There is also an evening activity program offered at the centre.

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

Reading School is an Exempt Charity under Schedule 2 of the Charities Act 1993, and is recognised as charitable by HM Customs and Excise, ref. no. XT35863.
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The price on all trips includes full board and as such

- All meals are provided except for a packed lunch required on day 1
- Return coach travel
- Excursions, evening activities, entrance fees and guides

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 and is dependent on demand. Please complete the below Microsoft Form link by 12:00 on Monday 4th of March - <https://forms.office.com/e/Q1SL54DU1V>

Places will be allocated, and notification will be communicated by 11th March and a non-refundable deposit of £100 will then be due by 19th March to secure your son's place. Payment links will be sent via Evolve with two further instalments in April and May.

Parental contributions are required 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 can participate; if you or your family are experiencing hardship of any nature, please contact Mr T. Evans 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.

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 son 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.

NB. All 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 me at tevans@reading-school.co.uk

Yours sincerely,

Mr T Evans
Assistant Headmaster

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