

July 2018



Dear Parent/Carer

Year 7 Venture Week 2019

There will be a Venture Week for Year 7 students at **Kingswood Educational Centre at Bembridge on the Isle of Wight** during the Easter holidays from **Sunday 31st March to Friday 5th April 2019**. This residential trip is arranged in conjunction with Kingswood Activities Centres.

General details about Venture Week 2019

The cost for each student will be £480. Should there be any change to this we will notify you; for example, as you might expect, petrol costs are not yet confirmed

This cost includes:

- **Full board basic accommodation in dormitories of 6-10 students**
- **Coach and ferry travel and Insurance**
- **Off-site activities including a day trip to Portsmouth Harbour (including a trip up the Spinnaker Tower and a look around the Mary Rose), a visit to the Isle of Wight Zoo (which is associated with Chris Packham and his partner) and ten-pin bowling**
- **On-site activities**
- **Venture Week t-shirt**

The week is spent partly “on-site” with fully organised activities such as abseiling, archery, caving, climbing, go-karting and fencing, and “off-site” at local places of interest, as indicated above. Discos, sports competitions and other recreational activities are organised and supervised at the centre in the evenings.

We have organised similar venture weeks for over 30 years and, while we know that it is not a curriculum requirement, we know that it is a valuable and enjoyable experience for our students.

We are providing information about Venture Week now so that you can plan ahead, particularly with regards to finances.

[Please turn over]

Details about applying to take part in Venture Week 2019

- If you wish your child to participate in Venture Week 2019, **please return the attached reply slip and a deposit of £180 (*cheques should be made payable to High Storrs School*) to the Student Reception no later than Friday, 28th September 2018.**
- **Please ensure that the reply slip** (which asks for some preliminary medical information and a commitment to good behaviour) **and cash/cheque are placed in an envelope which is clearly labelled with the name and form of your child.**
- There is a **maximum of 80 places** available on this trip and **if more than this number wish to go, we will draw names out of a “hat” on Thursday, 11th October 2018**. This method has been discussed and agreed by staff and governors as the fairest way to ensure everyone has an equal opportunity to gain a place on Venture Week.
- **Places are not allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.**
- The names of disappointed students will be kept on a waiting list in the order they have been drawn.
- **Those who are successful will receive written confirmation shortly before Autumn Half Term, when your non-returnable deposit will be banked.**
- The parents of any students placed on a waiting list will also be informed and their deposits returned. We will let you know if any places become vacant.

Details about paying for Venture Week 2019

The remaining balance of payment of **£300** will need to be paid by the following dates please:

- **£150 by Friday, 30th November 2018** (leaving a balance of **£150**)
- **£150 by Thursday, 31st January 2019** (which completes the payment)

You can, of course, pay more than the required amount at any one time. Receipt of deposits and all instalments will be recorded in your child's planner. **Full details about how and when to pay will be sent to you if your child is successful in gaining a place.**

Part of your deposit covers holiday insurance and in the event of a late cancellation because of illness an insurance claim may be arranged. **You should be aware that all correspondence in this event must be directed to the travel company's insurance and that the school cannot be responsible for immediate compensation even if the place can be filled.**

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A note about behaviour both before and during Venture Week

As you are no doubt aware, health and safety are of paramount concern when any school takes children on a residential trip. **For this reason, we cannot take students with us whose behaviour in school gives us cause for concern; this includes students who truant or are persistently late to school without a good reason.** In such cases, we reserve the right to prevent the child from taking part in Venture Week and refund monies paid so far. We also reserve the right to ask you to collect your son and daughter from Venture Week if his/her behaviour is giving us cause for concern. We do not wish to be negative and we are sure that you will understand why we have taken this position.

Details about the Venture Week meeting for parents/carers

After final payments are received in January all detailed arrangements will be made. The students will be consulted about dormitory groupings (we will try to meet students' requests as far as possible) and at a **meeting for parents and students on Tuesday, 19th March 2019**, you will have the opportunity to meet accompanying staff and team leaders and receive full and final details of the holiday.

In the meantime, please retain this letter for your information and do not hesitate to contact one of the team at school if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely

M.D. Fahidi

Mr M Fahidi
Venture Week Team Leaders

I.S. O'Connor

Mr I O'Connor

Please make the cheque payable to High Storrs School and write your child's name and trip name on the back of the cheque.

You may visit the Kingswood website at www.kingswood.co.uk for more information.

Some activities on Venture Week





HIGH STORRS SCHOOL VENTURE WEEK 2019
Sunday 31st March to Friday, 5th April 2019



Please bring this reply slip to Student Reception ONLY in an envelope marked 'Venture Week' and with the name and form of the pupil clearly written on it.

- I/We would like _____ of form _____ to join the Year 7 Venture Week at Kingswood Centre at Bembridge on the Isle of Wight.
- I/We enclose a deposit of **£180.00** (*cheques should be made payable to High Storrs School*). The deadline for this is Friday 28th September 2018.
- I/We agree to pay the balance of **£300** by the dates below:
 - ❖ **£150 by Friday, 30th November 2018** (leaving a balance of **£150**)
 - ❖ **£150 by Thursday, 31st January 2019** (which completes the payment)
- I/We note that any cancellation made could incur liability for the whole cost unless the reason for cancellation is covered by our insurance.
- I/We understand that persistent misbehaviour or an incident of serious misbehaviour committed by my/our child before Venture Week could result in he/she being withdrawn from the trip and money refunded.
- I/We understand that the school reserves the right to send my/our child home from Venture Week if his/her behaviour is a cause for concern.

Signed: Parent/Carer: _____ Date: _____

ADVANCE MEDICAL/DIETARY INFORMATION
(We will ask for confirmation in more detail nearer departure date)

Special Medical Needs _____

Any special diets required, e.g. vegan, vegetarian, nut allergy: (*We are aware that this may change*)
