



23rd March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Year 8 Camping Trip – 5th–7th July 2021 or 9th-11th July 2021

Now that an end to the National lockdown is in sight, we are hopeful that we can run the Ferny Crofts camping trip that was postponed last summer. The trip is an excellent chance for your daughter to build friendships, develop confidence, endurance and resilience and to experience the beauty of the New Forest. Now, more than ever, it is important to create opportunities for our students to spend time with their peers. The trip was relaunched to students today via a presentation, which you can view here.

[Ferny Crofts Presentation](#)

All being well, we will be taking two groups of students at opposite ends of the same week. The first group will leave on Monday 5th July 2021, returning on Wednesday 7th July 2021, and this will include students in 8Bl, 8Go, 8Gr, 8Or and 8Pi. The second group will leave on Wednesday 7th July 2021, returning Friday 9th July 2021 and will include students in 8Pu, 8Re, 8Si, 8Wh and 8Ye.

The cost of the trip is £130. There will be the option to make payment in two parts. The first instalment of £65 must be paid by 23rd April 2021 and the final payment of £65 must be paid by 7th June 2021.

If your daughter would like a place on this trip, we are asking that you complete the Microsoft Forms questionnaire that will be sent to you shortly. The deadline for completion is **Thursday 25th March 2021**. Please be advised, a trip list will be created based on the information shared in the questionnaire so if you have not returned your response by the deadline, we will not automatically include your daughter on the trip list. If you have made part/full payment previously, you are still required to complete the questionnaire to confirm your daughter's place on the trip. Unfortunately, we will not be able to make further changes after this date.

The Fernycrofts trip will show on Wisepay after 1st April. When you access your account, you will see your outstanding balance. If you have previously made a payment for the trip, and have not received a refund, this will be reflected in any outstanding balance.

If your daughter does not want a place on the trip and you have paid money last year, please indicate this on the Microsoft Forms questionnaire and we will arrange a refund in due course. Please bear with us whilst we process these.

Your voluntary contribution covers all trip costs including travel, insurance, all activities and food (except lunch on the first day). Unfortunately, we will not be able to run the trip unless all parents who are able to meet the cost are willing to do so. If you are unable to contribute

the full amount, you are invited to contact me in confidence so that we can discuss the possibility of financial support towards your daughter's participation. We may also be able to look at extending the deadlines for payments. The school will make every effort to help, however, please note that we have a fixed annual budget for financial assistance. As this trip is taking place during the school term, you may claim a contribution towards the cost of your daughter's place if she is currently eligible for pupil premium funding. For those eligible, the maximum contribution available is 50%.

If we are unable to run the trip we will endeavour to refund monies paid. However, in the unlikely event that the trip cannot take place and the campsite are unable to issue a refund, the initial £65 deposit will be non-refundable. Refunds unfortunately cannot be made if a student decides they no longer wish to attend the trip, once their place has been confirmed.

If COVID testing is still in place, we will be asking students and staff to test prior to departure. Any students who are showing signs of COVID symptoms on the trip will need to be picked up by parents/carers from the campsite. We will be following the COVID guidelines if someone does test positive on camp.

Yours faithfully,

Mr A Bailey
Science Teacher

YEAR 8 FERNY CROFTS CAMPING EXPERIENCE

Information Sheet (please keep for your records)

A stay at Ferny Crofts, a camp site near Beaulieu in the New Forest, Hampshire.

Situated in the beautiful New Forest, Ferny Crofts is a 31-acre Scout Activity Centre, in the heart of the New Forest National Park. Apart from its stunning location, Ferny Crofts boasts a whole host of outdoor activities and spacious camping

Residential adventures encourage children to adopt healthy lifestyles. Students will experience an assortment of physical activities that will increase their enjoyment and appreciation of the outdoors. Activities may include raft crate challenge, climbing, leap of faith, gladiator, and high ropes and a nature trail that will encourage them to see the beauty and importance of the Forest. No-one will be forced to do activities but they will be encouraged to challenge themselves to do things they thought they couldn't.

In addition, living together under canvas in an unfamiliar environment will give your daughters the chance to really get to know each other. Taking part in fun yet challenging activities will help them to bond, learn new skills and develop their self-esteem.

Students will have the space to make choices, assess the risks and the consequences of their decisions, and discover the benefits of teamwork.

If you would like to see more information about the site, you can look at their website www.fernycrofts.org.uk

Coaches will take us from school to the campsite on Monday or Wednesday at 9.00am and return us at about 3.00pm on Wednesday or Friday.