



Thursday 12th January 2023

Re: Year 9 Residential Trip

Dear Year 9 families,

We are delighted to offer your child an opportunity to participate in the Year 9 Residential trip to Windmill PGL Centre in East Sussex. This trip gives students the opportunity to take part in a variety of activities and form lasting friendships with their peers, as well as providing Year 9 students with a whole year group trip, something that they have not been able to experience due to the Coronavirus Pandemic.

The trip will be taking place between **Wednesday 15th March – Friday 17th March 2023** at **Windmill Hill PGL Centre, Windmill Hill Place, East Sussex, BN27 4RZ**. We have run trips similar to this successfully in the past and students gain a lot from the experience.

The itinerary for the residential will be as follows:

- **Day 1- Wednesday 15th March.** Leave Sydenham School by coach and drive to Windmill Hill in East Sussex, arriving at lunchtime. Students will eat their packed lunches and then complete two activities. In the evening they will have dinner and then evening entertainment provided by the staff at Windmill Hill.
- **Day 2- Thursday 16th March.** Breakfast in the Centre. Students will complete two activities, have lunch and then complete two more activities. In the evening they will have dinner and then evening entertainment provided by the staff at Windmill Hill.
- **Day 3- Friday 17th March.** Breakfast in the Centre. Students will complete two activities, have lunch and then travel by coach back to Sydenham School.

Students will need to bring a packed lunch for the first day. If your child normally has Free School Meals, the school will provide a packed lunch for them.

Students will need to dress appropriately whilst on the trip and be prepared to be outdoors for most of the day. We expect students to bring a reusable water bottle with them to ensure that they stay hydrated.

Students will also need to bring a sleeping bag and pillow. Please do contact the school if you foresee an issue here.

A parental guide from PGL, including a recommended kit list, can be found on their website at [About \(pgl.co.uk\)](http://About(pgl.co.uk))

More information regarding the facilities at Windmill Hill can be accessed here: [Windmill Hill Activity Camp, English Language Courses, Excursions & Adventure, Sussex \(pgl.co.uk\)](http://Windmill Hill Activity Camp, English Language Courses, Excursions & Adventure, Sussex (pgl.co.uk))



The cost of the trip will be approximately **£142** per student. This includes:

- Transport
- Insurance
- 2 nights' accommodation in rooms with bunkbeds
- All meals (dinner on the first day; breakfast, lunch and dinner on the second day; breakfast and lunch on the third day)
- 8 activity sessions at the Centre, including zip wire, the giant swing and abseiling
- Evening entertainment.

We recognise that this sum may represent a significant amount of money for some of our families and will be offering a reduced rate for students who are Pupil Premium or in receipt of Free School Meals. If you have concerns about the cost but would like your child to attend, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Please indicate your permission when you pay the **non-refundable £50 deposit via ParentPay by Wednesday 25th January 2023**. This will secure your child's place on this very exciting school journey. Future instalments will need to be paid by:

- Wednesday 8th February: £43
- Wednesday 22nd February: £49.

All payments must be made online via ParentPay. The school does not accept cash or cheques. The Finance Office may be contacted at Finance@sydenham.lewisham.sch.uk if you have any difficulty with the login procedure for payments.

Further, detailed information regarding the trip will follow shortly. We would be grateful if you could please discuss this opportunity with your child.

Yours sincerely,

Eleanor George

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