

24 April 2025

Dear parents and carers

We are really delighted and excited to introduce to you our **Culture & Challenge Days '25**, which are coming up on **Wednesday 9 July and Thursday 10 July**.

These two days are off-timetable, **for all students***, offering an array of enriching activities both in-school and out, that provide opportunities to get beyond the academic curriculum, have some fun with peers and staff members, some cultural experiences and some personal challenges to build their skills and open their minds to possibilities for the future.

Details of the activities for each year group, and the cost associated are in the table below. In putting together these packages we have been mindful of the cost of living and have tried to keep these as low as we possibly can without compromising on the students' experience.

Here's the full [Culture & Challenge programme](#):

	Wednesday 9 July	Thursday 10 July
Year 10 £50	Silver DofE Expedition around Ashdown Forest OR Work Experience (arranged by you)	Choice of Aqua Park & Inflatables at Thorpe Lakes or Cinema & Karting Combo in Crawley (all transport by coach)
Year 9 £50	High Ropes Tree Top Challenge at Wildwood in Guildford or Go Ape at Chessington (transport by coach), or Water Based Activities (paddle boarding, kayaking & rafting) at Mercers Lake (walking from school)	A carousel of external visitors in the school grounds with displays from Huxley's Birds of Prey Centre , Tom's Talking Reptiles , Tony Kelly Gambling presentation , and Terrence Higgins Trust

Year 8 £33	<i>Half the year group will go to The Light on Wednesday and take part in Crystal Maze games on Thursday and the other half will do Crystal Maze games on Wednesday and The Light on Thursday.</i>	
Year 7 £38	9-Mile Challenge Circular Hike around the North Downs, from and back to the school, appreciating our beautiful local and natural surroundings	Trip to Chessington Zoo & World of Adventures (transport by coach)
	Three activities from a choice of five (bowling, climbing, crazy golf, pool & darts, shuffleboard) at The Light in Redhill in the morning, followed by a cinema experience in the afternoon. Lunch is included	Crystal Maze Games with a variety of physical, mental & skills-based challenges to develop team-work, leadership, problem-solving and initiative, taking place here in our grounds

Culture & Challenge Days '25 have been added to your [ParentPay](#). You can make payment in full or by two instalments, the first being due on 1 May and the second due by 2 June. If you anticipate a difficulty making this payment, please contact your Year Hub as soon as possible to discuss how we may be able to support. These days provide really important experiences for your young people and we want all students to take part. If you have not made a payment by the deadline we will be in touch to discuss this as it is not possible to opt out of Culture & Challenge days.

***If your young person is attending the trip to France (Year 8) or the DofE Silver Expedition (Year 10) you do not need to make a payment for Culture & Challenge Days.**

Finer details of what to wear, what to bring and the timings for each activity will be emailed to you nearer the time.

We truly believe these days will celebrate and challenge the students in equal measure, bringing the best from them in so many ways.

Best wishes
Mr I Miles
Community Partnership Coordinator

