

## THE KING'S SCHOOL PROJECT WEEK

11<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> JULY 2022

### LAUNCH OF BIG, WEEK-LONG PROJECTS

Please only complete the form on Edulink if you wish for your child to go on one of the week-long projects listed below

There will be other lower cost **daily** projects launched early in December and a list of these will be sent out to parents in due course

PROJECT	APPROX. COST	NUMBER OF PLACES
LONDON THEATRE EXPERIENCE	£470	40
CORNWALL SURFING RESIDENTIAL	£440	40
CUMULUS OUTDOORS	£380	40
MAGICAL HISTORY TOUR	£350	40
HORSE RIDING WEEK	£340	10
ARVON WRITING RETREAT	£340	16
MENDIPS ADVENTURE WEEK	£310	30
MINI SPORTS TOUR SW	£250	20
LONDON & BRISTOL CULTURE WEEK	£225	20
ANIMAL ANTICS	£160	30
HAVEN BANKS	£145	48
SCALEXTRICS	£65	10
YEAR 6 LIAISON	FREE	12

*Ballots will be drawn when a project is oversubscribed*

PLACES ON A PROJECT ARE **ONLY** SECURED BY  
A NON-REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT OF **£50**

**Please return your choices via Edulink by FRIDAY 5<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER**

**Please note that project choices are NOT allocated on a first come, first served basis. Applications received after 5<sup>th</sup> November will only be accepted if an activity or trip still has spaces available.**

# **PROJECT WEEK, 11<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> JULY 2022**

## **WEEK-LONG PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS**

**(If your child is successful with their application, a confirmation letter with full details will be provided)**

### **LONDON THEATRE EXPERIENCE**

From the magic of West End shows to performance workshops and a chance to see the sights of London in a week of all things theatrical. During this 5-day project we are going to enjoy a range of theatre-based experiences, including 3 shows and 2 workshops lead by industry professionals, a tour round the Globe Theatre plus a visit to the Victoria & Albert Museum. All this and the chance to shop and take a look round our capital's tourist hot spots; Convent Garden, Westfields, the South Bank and much much more! This trip includes all travel and overnight accommodation, food and all activities/tickets. **£470.**

### **CORNWALL SURFING RESIDENTIAL**

A week of surfing in a stunning location on the North Cornish Coast, just 3 miles from Padstow. Students will leave school early on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> July and return early evening on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> July. The cost covers all surf tuition at Harlyn Surf School and 4 nights' accommodation and full board (breakfast, packed lunch and evening meal) at Treyarnon YHA. On the Wednesday there will be a rest day but on the other days you will have 2 surf lessons per day, morning and afternoon. Harlyn is one of the most beautiful and unspoilt beaches in Cornwall, as well as one of the safest beaches; voted as one of the top 5 beaches in the UK for activities and families. Approx. **£440.**

### **CUMULUS OUTDOORS, SWANAGE**

Experience the true spirit of adventure on the stunning Jurassic coast in Dorset. A 4-night stay in a tented village – the ideal location for an action-packed outdoor residential trip – where you will take part in a wide range of activities across the 5 days. All meals are cooked onsite, and you'll be in the capable hands of fully trained camp staff with a wealth of experience. Activities are predominantly water-based and include: coasteering, climbing, abseiling, kayaking, SUP, raft-building, mackerel fishing, bushcraft, high ropes, orienteering, MTB, archery, target shooting. This promises to be a great week! **£380.**

### **MAGICAL HISTORY TOUR**

Calling all budding historians! This trip will take you on a fantastic adventure into the past. Join us as we travel back in time, spending 3 days and 2 nights in London, including visits to The Imperial War Museum, the Tower of London, a Jack The Ripper walking tour of Whitechapel, come face-to-face with Medieval torture instruments in the Clink Museum and walk in the footsteps of the Suffragettes. We will dine out in the evenings. A further day and 1 night will be spent in Bristol where we will follow the path trodden by those involved in bringing an end to the slave trade. This will include a 60-minute Abolition Afloat Bristol ferry boat tour and a visit to the floating harbour. We will return to school on Thursday evening and explore a local history project on the Friday. The cost of the trip covers all travel, accommodation, entrance fees, breakfasts and evening meals while away. **£350.**

### **HORSE RIDING WEEK**

Spend five 'horsey' days at Budleigh Riding School taking part in a riding lesson and hack each day, plus a picnic ride and final show day. Learn about stable management, horse care and plaiting. All abilities welcomed – even those new to horse riding. Activities will be suited to the riders' experience. Students do **not** need their own hats / body protectors, as these can be provided by the riding school. Approximate cost **£340.**

### **ARVON WRITING RETREAT**

Release your imaginative potential on this 5-day residential creative writing retreat in Totleigh Barton, near the River Torridge in West Devon. Step away from the routine, be inspired by writers in this beautiful 16<sup>th</sup> century manor house. Arvon is a place for contemplation, challenge, and going beyond what you thought you were capable of achieving. The recently renovated barn offers a comfortable stay in an idyllic area. Price includes all workshops, food and accommodation. **£340.**

### **MENDIPS ADVENTURE WEEK**

An exciting week-long residential trip to The Mendips Activity Centre on a 250-acre site nestled in the heart of the Mendip Hill Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. We will be taking part in all sorts of adventurous land-based

fun, including: caving, climbing and abseiling, orienteering, archery and bush-craft. The approximate cost including all transport and accommodation will be **£310**.

### **MINI SPORTS TOUR SOUTH WEST**

Another new project for 2022 – a mini sports tour of the South West, open to Year 8 and Year 7 girls. We will spend 3 days away, with a night in Bristol's harbourside YHA and a night in Bath. All accommodation and travel included, as well as all meals while on tour. You will be playing in 2 fixtures against local schools and taking part in some fun team-building activities and social evening outings. The Thursday and Friday will be spent in school taking part in coaching masterclasses with specialists coming into school. Approximate cost **£250**.

### **LONDON & BRISTOL CULTURE WEEK**

A fun and culture-filled 5-day project to include a day-trip to Bristol where you will create your own street art and explore the Bristol street art scene including works by Banksy. 3 days (2 overnight stays) in London staying at one of the central London YHAs, where we will spend a day exploring the iconic Camden Market and eat street food, an evening exploring China Town (eating Dim Sum and visiting a Filipino ice cream shop), a half-day exploring Brick Lane's street art, a visit to a huge Hindu temple in North London and an afternoon exploring modern art at The Tate Modern. We will also explore the South Bank area. One day will be spent in school taking part in an Aikido (Japanese martial art) workshop with two Black Belt teachers, and a half-day yoga workshop. The cost includes travel, accommodation and meals. **£225**.

### **ANIMAL ANTICS**

A week of activities around Devon for students who love animals. From the largest of zoo animals to the tiniest of insects, students will get the chance to watch them, learn about them and, where possible, have the chance to handle and feed them. We will take in Yarak Birds of Prey, Buckfast Butterflies and Otters Farm, Totnes Rare Breeds Farm, and Paignton Zoo. On the Friday we will spend the day at Woodlands Theme Park (with other King's School students who opt to do Day Trips, which will be launched in December). Approximate cost **£160**.

### **HAVEN BANKS**

Haven Banks is the Southwest's premier outdoor education and training facility and one of the best in Europe! Based in the heart of Exeter on the historic canal and quayside, the centre offers an unrivalled, purpose-built outdoor activity centre in one of the most picturesque areas of Exeter. You will be transported by coach each day and have the opportunity to experience a whole variety of activities in 2-hour blocks, two activities per day throughout the week. Haven Banks has excellent instructors and amazing facilities. The range of activities available to us are: climbing, abseiling, indoor caving, bell boating, canoeing, kayaking, raft and team building, sailing, windsurfing, dragon boating and the 'Leap of Faith' tower. **£145**.

### **SCALEXTRIC**

An exciting week that includes racing Scalextric cars on a variety of racetracks and time trials to find the best drivers. We also make at least two Airfix type models which you get to keep! We will also be racing on PlayStation games and constructing Lego vehicles as well. It really is an awesome week! **£65**.

### **YEAR 6 LIAISON**

This project is absolutely vital in supporting new Year 6 students who are joining King's. The week will involve you building up a relationship with a particular teaching group and working with them in their classes during the week. At various times you will be involved in some different activities culminating in the competitive house events on the Friday. Students who opt for Year 6 Liaison need to get on well with other students, be caring in nature, have potential leadership skills and be excellent role models for younger students. There is **no cost** for this project and you will remain in school each day.

***A list of additional day trip projects will be advertised in December.***

***Examples of previous day trip activities can be viewed in the***

***2020 Project Week brochure posted on the Noticeboard section of Edulink.***

***This shows the types of activities that have been on offer previously as part of the day trips offer. PLEASE NOTE this reflects previous years' options and some of these activities may change for Project Week 2022.***

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:**

### **What is Project Week?**

It is a week when the normal timetable is suspended and students and staff embark on a variety of enrichment activities which we would ordinarily not be able to do. The aims of the week are to broaden students' horizons and experiences.

- Year 12 are engaged in fieldwork or work experience
- Year 10 are involved in work experience
- Years 7, 8 and 9 take part in Project Week

At the same time the school plays host to Year 6 students from our partner primary schools who visit as part of their induction week in readiness for joining The King's School in the following September.

### **Why does the school charge for Project Week?**

In previous years, the cost of Project Week has exceeded £125,000. This is equal to approximately 40% of the school's budget for buying books, text books and equipment for a whole year. We could not possibly cover the cost of Project Week without adversely affecting other aspects of the curriculum. However, the week is valued by students, staff, the governing body and parents and has a positive impact on students' learning and attitudes. In order to facilitate a broad and balanced offer we do need to request a voluntary contribution to cover costs incurred for many activities.

### **Why might some costings be an 'approximate' charge?**

Costings are based on several factors – principally, quotes given to the school and previous years' experience. There are three main reasons why the advertised cost may change:

1. The external provider may change the cost of an activity (some providers have not been able to give us definitive 2022 prices yet);
2. The number of students on an activity may change. For example, coach hire has a fixed cost irrespective of number of students. Each extra student on a coach brings the cost per student down;
3. Sometimes activity centres lower the cost per student if we bring more students.

### **Why have some prices increased so much?**

Provider quotes received for 2022 have risen due to higher provider operating costs (higher costs for raw materials, fuel, utilities and business rates), the impact of the pandemic on providers, and an increased demand for UK based residential activities.

### **In the event of a project being oversubscribed, how are students allocated to a project?**

Ballots will be drawn when a project is oversubscribed, however priority will be given to Year 9 students as this is their last year on Project Week. In previous years approximately 85% of all students have been awarded their first choice activity, and over 90% their 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> choice.

### **In the event of cancellation, will we be refunded?**

We would like to be in a position to say yes. However, in the event of an external agency demanding compensation for cancellation, we will not be able to do this. In general, deposits are non-returnable.

### **What precautions are taken to maximise the safety of students and staff?**

Safety is of paramount importance. Activities undergo a rigorous risk assessment procedure, which is checked by the school's educational visits co-coordinator and follows a code set out by Devon County Council, which reflects national government guidance. We ensure that tutors for adventure activities are accredited and insured and have passed child protection checks. Where possible adventure activities are held at centres certified by The Adventure Activities Licensing Authority or with accredited tutors.

## Student Conduct

Students are expected to sign a code of conduct regarding expectations and responsibilities during Project Week. This is to help ensure the safety of themselves, the party and members of the public. Any student who endangers themselves, the party or members of the public may be ejected from the project. In exceptional cases a parent may be requested to collect their child from a Centre or visit site.

## Can we take our child on holiday during this week?

We see Project Week as a critical part of our young people's education, broadening experiences and building positive new relationships. It counts as school term time and as a consequence parents are requested not to take their sons/daughters on holiday during this week. **Holiday requests during this week will be unauthorised and may result in parents being fined.**

## Can students receive financial support for projects?

Students currently in receipt of free school meals will be eligible for a bursary (up to £120) to support the cost of Project Week trips from The King's School pupil premium funds. **Any cost over £120 must be met by parents/carers.** You will still be required to pay the £50 non-refundable deposit to show commitment and hold a place on the trip and then the balance of the trip – less the bursary – will be payable by instalments in the usual way. Each instalment does not need to be paid all in one go – you can make smaller regular payments if you wish, as long as each instalment amount is paid by the deadline date. By clicking on the i next to the trip name on Scopay you'll be able to see the instalment deadline dates as well as the total you have paid so far and what is outstanding. Parents/carers should contact the Finance Office with any queries surrounding pupil premium payments. The King's School Foundation and Jubilee Trust (F&J) each year receives a number of requests for part-funding of projects. The F&J have in the past supported a small amount of the cost of an individual's project in cases of financial hardship. **Applications should be made in writing to the Headteacher.**

## Can my child swap projects after having selected a project?

It may be possible to do this early on but becomes increasingly difficult as time progresses. We will do everything we can to ensure that your child has a positive and enjoyable experience, however, once a project choice has been confirmed and a deposit paid, then this will be a student's allocated choice. Late changes can affect project costings and changes will only be considered in exceptional circumstances or where a clear replacement is available.

## Where can I get more information about a specific project?

Project Leaders will send out individual project letters once all replies from students have been collated and places are allocated. **Parents are also free to contact Ms Pickering or Mr Moran with any further queries.**

## What happens next?

Once your child's form has been completed on Edulink we will then ascertain which projects have sufficient numbers and are viable to run. It is possible that some projects may not run due to insufficient applications, making them prohibitively more expensive than advertised. It is possible that some students may need to re-apply once confirmed projects are determined. You will be advised which project your child has been allocated and the final cost of the projects by the end of January.

**PLEASE NOTE:** the criteria for selection for these trips varies, therefore parents will need to read the information carefully in order to avoid any misunderstanding. Whilst we acknowledge that it may be upsetting for students if they do not get a place on their preferred trip, due to oversubscription this is sometimes unavoidable. We ask that you support the school by preparing your child for this potential outcome.

If you are not successful in securing your preferred choice for Project Week, please only contact the school if you wish to be added to a waiting list. Be assured that the allocation of students to projects is equitable for all students and there is no process for appealing.

## PAYMENT PLAN:

Deposit due: 24<sup>th</sup> November 2021  
1<sup>st</sup> instalment due: 27<sup>th</sup> January 2022  
2<sup>nd</sup> instalment due: 27<sup>th</sup> February 2022  
3<sup>rd</sup> and final instalment due: 27<sup>th</sup> March 2022

