

LANCASTER ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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Dr A Shawcross Yr 7 Residential Coordinator



6th January 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

Year 7 Outdoor Residential Course, Pooley Bridge

LRGS has a strong tradition of outdoor education and, with our enviable location, we provide activities for a wide range of age groups within the school. A number of pupils gain their first true outdoor experience during our Year 7 residential course. Forms spend 2 nights as a group away from home and school in order to develop team work, leadership and self reliance but, above all, to enjoy themselves in an outdoor environment. The emphasis is on fun in an adventurous, yet secure, outdoor setting.

Those of you who have had older boys through the school will recall that for many years the residential was based around a hostel at the foot of Helvellyn, just outside the village of Glenridding. The trip was known to boys simply as "Glenridding". With, amongst other things, the addition of an extra year 7 form, two years ago the format and location were changed, but the boys still enjoy a high quality few days away with their forms.

Provider:

The residential will be run by Epic Outdoors (<https://www.epicoutdoors.co.uk>), an AALA licensed activity provider.

Accommodation:

We will be staying in a tented village based at Park Foot Camping and Caravan site. There are tents for group activities and eating with bell tents for sleeping, equipped with camp beds and sleeping bags. Shower and toilet facilities are in one of the campsite's buildings.

Catering:

With the exception of a packed lunch that the boys need to bring with them for the first day, all other meals will be provided by Epic adventures. If your son

has any particular dietary requirements please indicate this on the medical form (sent out nearer the time) so they can be catered for.

Activities:

Boys will be split into teams and take part in the following activities: a hill walk; rock climbing; raft building and lake traverse.

Evening activities will consist of activities such as team building games, campfires and some time for reflection.

Staffing:

The activities will be run by Epic instructors holding the appropriate governing body awards. **All activities will be subject to constant review and ongoing risk assessment depending on prevailing weather, forecasts and group ability.** There will also be school staff accompanying the boys for the duration of the trip.

Equipment:

No specialist equipment is required – this will be provided by Epic Outdoors.

Transport:

We travel up to Pooley Bridge by coach (via Penrith to ease any difficulties with travel sickness). Transport to activity sites which may be a short distance from the campsite will be using Epic Outdoors minibuses.

Cost:

The course is not optional and is consequently subsidised by the school. However, activities of this nature could not be organised without a contribution from parents. The contribution this year is £195. If any family feels that they cannot contribute this amount due to financial constraints, then a lower contribution can be arranged. **LRGS is committed to ensuring that this course is accessible to ALL pupils regardless of financial background and funding is available to provide full financial assistance, if required.** My contact details are at the bottom of the letter if you need to get in touch regarding this.

Payment should be made through the school's online payment service, 'Wisepay', which can be accessed through the school website or at the following web address:

www.lrgs.org.uk/login, either as a one off payment by the 20th May, or as a series of monthly payments from 20th January. In the first instance could any issues with the Wisepay system be directed to Mrs Pearson, lpearson@lrgs.org.uk.

Dates:

The forms will be going on the following dates:

Monday 1 st – Wednesday 3 rd June	- 7B & 7S
Thursday 4 th – Saturday 6 th June	- 7L & 7G
Monday 8 th – Wednesday 10 th June	- 7R & 7T

Information Evening:

There will be a parents' information meeting at the beginning of the summer term (date to follow) at which a representative of Epic Outdoors and I hope to deal with most questions you may have.

After this meeting I will mail out with the answers to questions asked, so if you're unable to attend you'll have these, as well as emergency contact information, kit list, coach timings and medical/consent form.

If there is anything which you need to ask in the meantime, please get in touch with me.

Yours faithfully,

Dr A Shawcross

Yr 7 Residential Coordinator

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