



South Dartmoor Community College

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Empowering everyone to be the best they can be.

29 April 2024

Dear Parent / Carer

Year 9 Enrichment Days

We would like to inform you of our upcoming Enrichment Days which will take place on 17 – 19 July 2024. These activities are designed to enhance and broaden student's learning experiences beyond the classroom, using a range of enjoyable and stimulating formats. They are also aimed at providing a level of fun at the end of the academic year, some time to mix and socialise with others outside of teaching groups and to experience things they might not otherwise get the chance to do. It is also really important to us that all activities are inclusive; that every child gets the opportunity to participate regardless of background, socio-economic status, gender etc.

We have listened to feedback from parents and students on last year's offer and we have made changes to this year's programme accordingly. We have also taken into consideration that costs have risen significantly even in these last 12 months, particularly regarding transport. To that end, we have worked hard to create a programme that represents value for money and continues to provide an enriching experience for all students. We will be asking parents to make a voluntary contribution to the cost and many parents we have spoken to have said they felt this was acceptable. However, we are aware that some families may find this a challenge. Staying true to our values, no student will be declined a place due to a financial barrier and we ask that if payment is difficult, you kindly contact jdustin@southdartmoor.devon.sch.uk. Unfortunately, if not enough contributions are made, the trip elements of the programme will not be able to go ahead for the whole cohort and we will need to change plans.

This year's curriculum enrichment programme currently looks like this:

Wednesday 17 July: Woodlands Graduation Trip

Students will visit Woodlands Theme Park where they will be able to celebrate all their hard work and resilience that they have demonstrated throughout Years 7, 8 and 9. This will mark the transition from KS3 to KS4 and the start of their GCSE studies. Well done Year 9 you have earned it!

Thursday 18 July: All inside the mind; a day of Neurology.

The Lab of Misfits Neuroscience Enrichment Day offers students an immersive experience aimed at preparing them for an uncertain future. Through engaging sessions and workshops, students will explore topics such as perceptual neuroscience, emotional intelligence, and personal ecology. Workshops covering physical challenges, neurodiversity, and brain dissection will provide hands-on learning opportunities. A key component of the day is the 'Life Experiment' workshop, where students will focus on health, habits, community involvement, and personal growth. This comprehensive program promises to equip students with valuable skills and knowledge for navigating the complexities of the modern 8:world.

Friday the 19th July: PE Elite Skills Workshops

Students will spend their day with the PE department working with experts to broaden their physical skill set! Alongside the opportunity to gain a certificate in basic first aid training, students will opt in to one of the following workshops:

- 1. Plymouth Patriots Basketball Workshop** - SDCC students love their basketball, so who better to come in and provide some specialist basketball coaching than some coaches from the Plymouth Patriots!
- 2. Parkour Workshop** - The Plymouth Parkour team visit SDCC to introduce the emerging sport of Parkour.
- 3. An introduction to self-defense** - Taekwondo champion Pete O' Neil shares some tips and tricks on how to defend yourself effectively.
- 4. British Army Elite Skills** - The Elite Skills workshops full of challenging tasks that develop mental and physical attributes, including teamwork, leadership, communication skills, and problem solving.
- 5. Dance & Musical Theatre Workshop** - West End performer Grace Moorhouse will be teaching you how to dance and perform like a Theatre star.

Timings: Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Normal school hours. 0840 - 1510

Requirements: Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

No school uniform – own clothes must be suitable for the occasion.

Packed lunch and drinks. It is best to bring bottled drinks to keep hydrated throughout the day. Those students who are in receipt of Free School Meals will be able to collect a packed lunch from school.

Comfortable, activity appropriate clothing required. Depending on the weather waterproof clothing or alternatively hat and sun cream.

What you need to do next:

1. We are asking for a voluntary contribution of £40 to cover all three activities. To make this payment please go to Parent Pay; instalments are available if preferable. If you need assistance with making a voluntary contribution, please contact jdustin@southdartmoor.devon.sch.uk.
2. All parents / carers must complete a trip consent form to enable your child to go. While we may be able to provide some financial support, we cannot take any children whose parental consent has not been authorised. The forms are on Parent Pay, ready for you to complete.

The deadline for completion of ParentPay information (consent and payment) is 3 June 2024.

We are confident that these days will form a stimulating end of term and be an enjoyable conclusion to a very successful first year at South Dartmoor. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions, or concerns, via jdustin@southdartmoor.devon.sch.uk.

Best wishes

Emma Gallagher

Deputy Headteacher

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