

Year 7 Charterhouse Camp Summer 2026



October 2025

Dear Parent,



The Charterhouse outdoor educational experience has been a tradition at Oakfield for many years. For next year, the Academy has been able to secure bookings for two Charterhouse trips from **Monday 6th July to Wednesday 8th July and Wednesday 8th July to Friday 10th July 2026.**

We are sending this letter out now so you can make the payment of a deposit to secure a place for your child taking part in this outdoor experience, making the planning of the visit easier and allowing for a longer time between payments.

WHAT IS CHARTERHOUSE?

Charterhouse is an outdoor education centre, situated on the top of the Mendips above Burrington Coombe. The main buildings are the converted old village school, and include the development of a £200,000 purpose-built eco-friendly accommodation block, which replaced old wooden huts. The block includes bedrooms, shower block, toilets and a security lock system to the main building.

The children have a 3 day (2 night) stay at the Centre with Oakfield staff. The 3 days are physically demanding, and will involve activities such as climbing, caving, archery, low ropes, paddle boarding and team-building exercises. Activities are led by qualified instructors at Charterhouse.

WHY DO THE OAKFIELD STAFF RUN THE CHARTERHOUSE TRIPS?

Charterhouse often brings out the very best in children, and staff are sometimes surprised how pupils who have kept a low profile at school shine at camp. They have to learn to work together, each person helping to make the camp run smoothly so that everyone is happy and enjoys the experience. The children mature; we see them in a different light and they see that besides being teachers we are reasonably human!



Midsomer Norton
Schools Partnership

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Oakfield Academy
Frome

WILL MY CHILD BE SAFE?

All activities are supervised by fully trained, qualified and experienced staff. However, because accidents can happen, we have included the cost of activity insurance in the price of the trip. (You are of course welcome to make your own/additional insurance arrangements for your child). The children are never off site unaccompanied and the staff never leave the children alone on site. We have a strict code that we follow, having to be extra-careful 'parents' for your child.

We take every care for the well-being of your child and that is why it is important for us to know about, and be fully prepared for, any medical condition that your child may suffer from. A form requesting this information will be sent out once you have paid a deposit and secured a place for your child on the trip. Over the years of leading groups we have found few problems that cannot be overcome.

WHAT IS THE FOOD LIKE?

The food at Charterhouse is very good and plentiful. There are cooked breakfasts as well as cereals and fruit juice. Pupils return to the centre for a cooked lunch such as pasta or sausage rolls with fruit. The evening meal, which may be pasta bake and salad, pie, chips and vegetables, toad in the hole and vegetables, or something similar, is followed by a pudding.

There is a mug of hot chocolate before bed. Vegetarians and any special diets can be catered for; dietary information, along with medical information, needs to be submitted on application. Children will be expected to do general tidying up and help set up for meals.

WHAT DOES IT COST?

The trip will cost a total of **£279.70**. This includes transport, activities insurance, food, accommodation at the centre and all activities. We realise that this is a substantial amount, because of this, the letter is forwarded to you in advance, to help spread the cost.

We require a **£79.70** non-refundable deposit to secure your child's place on this trip **by** 5th November, further payments due as follows:-

30th November	£40.00
31st January	£40.00
28th February	£40.00
31st March	£40.00
30th April	£40.00

**Please note that places on this trip may be limited
and will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis.**

ALL PAYMENTS ARE NON REFUNDABLE.

TO BOOK & PAY

PLEASE PAY AND GIVE CONSENT USING Arbor Pay

Log into Arbor and choose "Trips" and select "Charterhouse June 2026". The link will allow you to give consent for your child to go on the trip. You will also be able to choose whether to pay for the trip in instalments or in one go. Parents need to complete the EV5 at this stage, which can be accessed using the following link:-

<https://forms.gle/CqpDKPs7kqmQMVVE8>

If you have any problems with Arbor or have not yet set it up, please contact Mrs Lodge in the Finance Office.

The deadline for payment of the deposit of £79.70 and completion of the form above to secure your child's place is 5th November 2025. Thank you.

If there is anything that you wish to discuss with us before paying the deposit, please do not hesitate to contact me and I will get back to you. More information will of course follow over the coming months.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'P Nightingale', with a stylized, cursive script.

Miss P Nightingale
Head of Year Six
Charterhouse trip organiser