

Charterhouse Summer Camp 2020

Year 7



OAKFIELD ACADEMY
BELIEVE AND ACHIEVE

October 2019

Dear Parent,



The Charterhouse outdoor educational experience has been a tradition at Oakfield for many years. For the coming school year, the academy has been able to secure bookings for two Charterhouse trips from **Monday 1st to Wednesday 3rd June & Wednesday 3rd to Friday 5th June 2020.**

We are sending this letter out early so you can register your interest in your child taking part in the outdoor experience, making the planning of the visit easier and allowing for a longer period of 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 have been converted from the old village school, and include the development of a £200,000 purpose-built eco-friendly accommodation block, which replaces the 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, orienteering, walking, bush craft and team-building exercises.

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. 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.



Oakfield Academy
Information Page

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@OakfieldAcorns

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. There are a variety of sandwich fillings available for packed lunches. On the return to the Centre there is an evening meal, which may be roast chicken, curry, spaghetti bolognese, sweet & sour or something similar, followed by a pudding.

There are always late night drinks and biscuits. Vegetarians and special diets can be catered for; this information will be requested along with medical information at a later date. Children will be expected to do general tidying up and help set up for meals.

WILL MY CHILD NEED SPECIAL EQUIPMENT?

NO. A sleeping bag, pillow and a sheet are required, as are a strong pair of shoes or walking boots. Wellingtons, gloves and woolly hats are required however much the children hate them. A **WATERPROOF COAT** is important and as many warm clothes as possible. Fashion does not count! We want the children to be warm and dry, with changes of clothes in case they get wet.

A full kit list will follow. Do not let your child talk you into buying new expensive gear. New shoes or boots would be painful and thus disastrous. Fashion shoes/daps are not suitable.

Due to the physical demands of Charterhouse it is recommended that your child has a healthy base level of physical fitness so they can fully enjoy and appreciate the 'Charterhouse Experience'. If in doubt please contact Mr Gough.

WHAT DOES IT COST?

The trip will cost a total of **£180.00**. This includes transport, activities insurance, food, accommodation at the centre and all activities. There will be no added costs. There are no shops and no opportunity to spend any money!! We realise that this is a substantial amount. It is because of this that the letter is forwarded to you so far in advance.

We require a **£36.00** non-refundable deposit to secure your child's place on this trip **by FRIDAY 29th NOVEMBER** with further payments due as follows:-

31 st January 2020	instalment	£36.00
28 th February 2020	instalment	£36.00
27 th March 2020	instalment	£36.00
24 th April 2020	instalment	£36.00

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

ALL PAYMENTS ARE NON REFUNDABLE.

WHY DO THE OAKFIELD STAFF RUN THE CHARTERHOUSE TRIPS?

For the staff who go to Charterhouse the workload and responsibility is massive. It is literally a 24-hour a day job and is optional – but staff still volunteer. 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 enjoy the experience. The children seem to grow up; we see them in a different light and they see that besides being teachers we are reasonably human!

Throughout the year we expect each child to behave responsibly and sensibly, this is also particularly the case on camp. There will be a CODE OF CONDUCT that pupils will sign and we ask you to reinforce this with them at home. Children at camp who break the code will be sent home and their parents will be asked to collect them. Staff reserve the right to refuse to take a child to Charterhouse whose behaviour at school gives cause for concern.

TO PAY

Please give consent if you would like your child to participate. For **paperless replies** using ParentPay, please choose **'Pay for other items'** and the **Year 7 Charterhouse Camp**. The link will take you to the consent and payment section. **If paying using ParentPay please do not complete a paper consent form.** Thank you.

ParentPay

A letter stating your unique user name and password to enable you to log into this facility was sent to parents previously. Please contact Mrs Palfrey in the academy office if you do not have your log on details.

Cheque

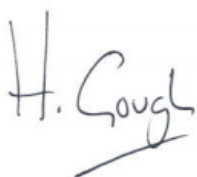
If paying by cheque, please make cheque payable to 'Oakfield Academy' and include your child's name, tutor group and 'Charterhouse' on the reverse.

Cash

If you prefer to pay by cash **please do not** send it into school with your child. Payments must be made direct to the academy office and a receipt will be given. We will not be held responsible for cash payments which do not 'make it' to the office.

Whichever method of payment you choose you must make your deposit payment of £36.00 by Friday 29th November 2019. Thank you.

I am sorry this letter is so long, but we have tried to cover most of the main points. Finally, if there is anything that you wish to discuss with us before completing the reply slip, please do not hesitate to contact the office. More information will of course follow over the coming months.



Mr Gough
Charterhouse Trip Organiser

FOR PAPER RESPONSES ONLY
OAKFIELD ACADEMY YEAR 7 TRIP TO CHARTERHOUSE – June 2020

Name _____

Class _____

I give permission for my child to take part in the Year 7 Charterhouse 2020 trip. I understand and agree to all the requirements mentioned in this letter and understand I must make full payment of £180.00 by 24th April 2020 to enable my child to participate.

I enclose a deposit of £36.00 in the form of a cheque payable to 'Oakfield Academy' and understand that all payments are non-refundable.

or

I have used ParentPay to pay the £36.00 deposit for this trip and understand all payments are non-refundable.

or

I have enclosed £36.00 in cash, brought to the academy office and understand all payments are non-refundable.

or

I have paid the full £180.00 via one of the above methods.
Please circle; cheque / ParentPay / cash

I am aware that I am able to consider making my own insurance arrangements for personal accident cover for my child for school activities in the U.K.

Signature of parent _____

Date _____

**Please return this slip to the office clearly marked with
your child's name, tutor group and CHARTERHOUSE 2020 by 29th November 2019.**

