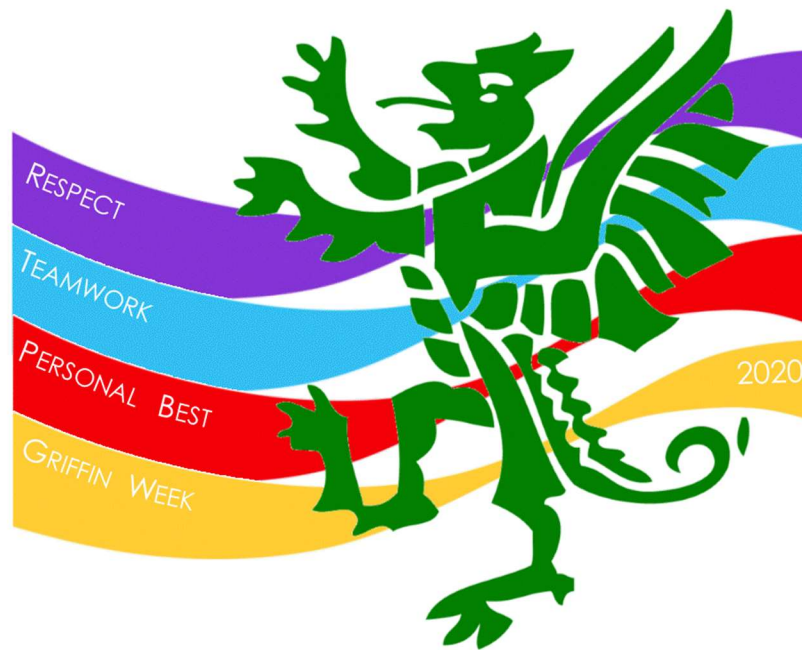


Griffin Week

Monday 6 July to Friday 10 July 2020



Additional Information booklet for Year 9

Dear Parents/Carers,

Griffin Week Monday 6 July to Friday 10 July 2020

We have had some wonderful feedback and excitement from the students following Griffin Week assemblies last term. Following on from the letter home in December, we are delighted to send you this booklet with further information.

We are looking forward to a wonderful week of new experiences, shared learning and fun to celebrate the end of a great year at Ralph Allen with the students.

With best wishes,

Mr A Greenhough

What happens next?

1. Please read through the booklet and activities together at home. Agree with your child what you would prefer.
2. Check the payment information and other relevant information at the end of the booklet.
3. Make sure your Year 9 child has their preferences from 1 to 10 written into their planner so they can input them at school during a Computer Science lesson this term.

How will students make their preferences?

Students will log on to the school intranet, where there is a form specific to them and their year group. Students will be shown how to select the correct form and how to input their preferences. They will need to list their preferences from 1 (most preferred) to 10 (least preferred).

We will run the preference software once all Year 9 have completed the online form – there is no “first come first served” element. If your child is away from school we may need to contact you to make sure we have their preferences included in the mix.

The online software allocates students randomly based on their numbered preferences. So it is important that your child considers every choice and gives it a numbered preference.

Students have already asked us:

Q: Will I get all my favourites?

A: We will do our best but can't make any guarantees – we don't know what you will all choose yet!

Q: Can I do it with my friend?

A: The system can't match student to student. However, we have run trials and students who choose the same things are more likely to end up together. You will definitely be with lots of people you know whatever you choose.

ACTIVITY INFORMATION

OFF SITE	ONSITE/LOCAL BATH AREA		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bournemouth £20 • Lion King - London sights & matinee £60 • Horse riding Cotswolds £30 • Theatre experience £10 • Two Tunnels Cycling £3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sports Carousel • Escape room & treasure hunt 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Musical in A Day • Even stranger things 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smoothie Challenge • Apprentice
<p>All Year 9 will also take part in a 'Sustainable Design' day working on technology challenges onsite. There is no charge for this. For more information please see Parents - Griffin Week on the school website.</p>			


What activities are being made available for Year 9

Please read through the descriptions of the different activities that are available. We would like all Year 9 students to enjoy at least one trip off site. For that reason, we have worked hard to offer high quality trips at a good value price.


Please discuss the options with your child. At the end of the descriptions there is an order of preference grid to complete, which your child can use to complete their preferences online in school. It also ensures that where there is a cost involved in a trip that this has been agreed at home.


On Friday 10 July all students will take part in the Skyline Walk to celebrate the end of our week.

Individual Activity information


ACTIVITY	Bournemouth
Code 9BOURNE	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build sandcastles, enjoy beach games, tug of war and paddle • Explore the piers, try the observation wheel, play crazy golf, enjoy live outdoor music • Discover the Russell-Cotes art museum • Decide which is the best ice-cream
Cost	£20
Location	Bournemouth
Lead staff	Mr Forrester
Any other information	Bring a packed lunch, a refillable water bottle, a small amount of spending money and your phone. Make sure you have the right clothing for the weather, a hat for shade and plenty of suncream.


ACTIVITY	Lion King matinee and London sights
9LION	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coach sightseeing • Picnic in St James' Park, walk through Horseguards, Whitehall and Trafalgar Square to the Lyceum off The Strand • Matinee performance with Grand Circle tickets
Cost	£60
Location	London
Lead staff	Mrs Bryden
Any other information	Bring snacks, drinks and a picnic lunch plus a small amount of spending money and your phone. Good shoes for walking needed.

ACTIVITY	Horse riding in the Cotswolds
Code 9HORSE	 <p>https://www.greenhillequitation.com/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catch your ride, groom and tack up. • Enjoy a 45 minute arena lesson with a BHS instructor (for riders mastering trotting) or 45 minute off road hack in Cirencester Park (for riders confident to canter) • Untack and groom your schoolmaster horse • Picnic lunch in the fields
Cost	£30
Location	Cotswolds
Lead staff	Ms Tasker
Any other information	Bring a packed lunch and snacks plus a small amount of cash for an ice-cream or drink from the 'Rugroom Café'. Bring your riding hat and body protector. There is also some equipment available to borrow including hat, body protector. Wear boots/shoes with a defined heel. No wellies or trainers allowed.


ACTIVITY	Theatre Experience
9THEATRE	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Backstage tour • Practical workshop by Drama Practitioner from "The Egg"/"The Naturals" • Talk and practical advice from specialists in sound, lighting or costume • Performance experience
Cost	£10
Location	Local Theatre
Lead staff	Ms Hobbs
Any other	Meet and dismiss in central Bath.


information	
-------------	--


ACTIVITY	Two Tunnels Cycling
Code 9TWOTUN	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring your bike to Bloomfield Open Space and set off to Wellow/Bitton and back • Tour de France style peloton cycling • Ice-cream and drinks stops at Wellow and Bitton • Discover links to other no-traffic or low traffic routes around Bath and the area
Cost	£3
Location	Bath
Lead staff	Ms Smith
Any other practical information	Bring your bike in good condition plus your helmet .Bring a packed lunch, a refillable water bottle, a small amount of spending money and your phone. Make sure you have the right clothing for the weather, a helmet and plenty of suncream.

ACTIVITY	Sports Carousel
9SPORT	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Try a range of different sports and activities. • Discover new ways to enjoy free time with friends. • Keep fit, get outdoors and relax with popular games.
Cost	FREE
Location	Sulis field next door to school and Ralph Allen sports facilities.
Lead staff	Mr Davis
Any other information	Come in your PE kit. Bring suncream, a hat and a refillable water bottle.

ACTIVITY	'Even Stranger Things'
Code 9STRANGE	 <p>Have you ever wondered...?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What happened to Hopper? • What's happening in Siberia?? • Why are their clothes so great??? <p>Come to this 80s Themed American Day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategy Boardgames/American Snacks/Film 
Cost	FREE
Location	Ralph Allen school
Lead staff	Mr Paisley

ACTIVITY	Escape rooms and Treasure hunt
Code 9ESCAPE	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solve puzzles and de-code messages to break out of a set of locked rooms. Design your own escape rooms Follow clues and solve riddles to lead you to prizes, all around the school!
Cost	FREE
Location	Ralph Allen school
Lead staff	Mr Bone
Any other information	Bring a keen mind and your imagination
Any other information	Upside down?

ACTIVITY	Smoothie Challenge – Apprentice style
Code 9SMOOTH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work in a team to produce, advertise and pitch your new smoothie As well as making a delicious new fruit drink, you will produce an advert to help pitch your new product May the best team win! Will you be the next apprentice? 
Cost	FREE
Location	Ralph Allen school
Lead staff	Mrs Pursall
Any other information	Bring some fresh fruit, props for your advert, alongside your creativity and hard work to impress 'Lord Sugar'. Please let us know if you have any allergies, medical or dietary needs.

ACTIVITY	Musical in A Day - Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat
Code 9JOSEPH	 <p>The opportunity to perform in a musical:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Come dressed for the stage and in character Rehearse the songs, get the staging sorted Get your moves and blocking together Perform your matinee
Cost	FREE
Location	Ralph Allen school

Lead staff	Ms MacRae Nash
Any other information	Bring suitable props, a refillable water bottle, some knowledge of the show and your phone.

RECORD YOUR PREFERENCES YEAR 9 GRIFFIN WEEK 2020

Talk this through with your child and select 10 activities in order of preference. Your first preference, in at number one, is the one that is your top preference...all the way to number ten, the least preferred activity. Please keep a note at home/on your phone of these preferences.

Preference	Activity Code
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	

What happens after Year 9 have made their preferences?

We will collate the preferences from all students and run the allocation software. We will then contact you to let you know which activities your child has in their week and confirm this with you.

At this point we will also ask you give one signed permission for your child to take part in their Griffin Week activities and make sure we have up to date trip information from you for the week.

Once we've received this, payment will be set up on the school on-line payment system for you to make any relevant payments. The deadline for payments is Friday 24 April 2020.

Please note:

If payments are not received by deadline by **Friday 24 April 2020**, it may not be possible to run activities as planned.

Once the programme for students is agreed between home and school, no changes will be possible, either before or during the week.

Payment information

We have tried to ensure that all activities are good value and keep prices low. Please make any payment needed for the weeks trips, online (via the link at the top of the school's homepage on the school website at <http://www.ralphallenschool.com>).

To make an online payment you will need your user name and password (already supplied). If you have any queries regarding payment for the visit, or usage of the online payment system please contact the Finance Office by telephone on 01225 838923 or by email to k.debeer@ralphallenschool.com.

If you are finding it difficult to meet the cost of this trip and/or will be in receipt of free school meals, please contact either Mrs Fleming (Assistant Headteacher) h.fleming@ralphallenschool.com or Mrs Katrina de Beer (Finance Officer and Educational Visits Administrator) at the school as soon as possible as we may be able to assist financially. **Our aim is for all students to go on at least one of the off-site trips.**

Other useful information

School uniform. Students will not wear school uniform. They will, of course, need appropriate clothing for the activity and weather. Any specific clothing/equipment/prop requirements will be listed in a letter nearer the time for particular activities.

Lunches Where students are on a trip out of school, they will be expected to bring their own packed lunch. Please avoid nuts and nut products in home packed food. If your child receives free school meals, they will be able to collect their lunch before the trip departs in the morning. For students staying in school, lunch will be available to purchase from the dining room as usual.

School day and Attendance School will open and close at the normal times and students are expected to attend school on every day of the week, as during any other school week. Where trips start before and/or end after the normal school day we will confirm timings nearer the time.

If your child does fall ill in Griffin Week, and can't come in, please let us know as early as possible using the usual absence line on 01225 832936 option 1. This would be especially helpful if they are on a coach trip out.

Please note that if an activity is chargeable, the cost has been calculated based on all participants paying in full. Should a student be unable to attend a chargeable activity, a refund is unlikely to be possible.

Behaviour and trips. As with other trips and activities, past behaviour in school determines whether your child is allowed on a visit; this is in line with the B&NES Health and Safety Policy. We must therefore alert parents/carers to the fact that any student who applies for a place, who has in the past a history of not complying with staff instructions or is currently on the Governors Disciplinary Procedure (GDP), may well be ineligible for trips and activities out of

school. Applications received from students who have a history of not obeying staff instructions or are currently on the GDP will be carefully considered and parents/students will be informed of the position as to whether they will be eligible to accompany the visit.

For more information - Do talk with your child. This booklet and further information about Griffin Week's trips and activities will be on the school website under Parents – Griffin Week