

Year 6 Residential to The Great Escape in Shropshire 29th June – 1st July 2026

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Sadly, just before Christmas, Carsington Sports and Leisure closed, therefore we have had to change our residential trip for Year 6. The Great Escape Company came highly recommended from another school, and Mr Cook and I completed a preliminary visit earlier this month. The Year 6 pupils will have the opportunity to spend 3 days in Shropshire with The Great Escape Company - <https://www.thegreatescapecompany.co.uk>. Mark Willis set up the company in 2009 and has been providing a highly personal service to students from Year 3 to 12, specialising in teaching leadership, personal development and team building in the outdoors.

The company run overnight camps designed specifically to take children out of their virtual lives and back into a world that gets them building again, not just camps and fires, bridges and rafts but character, confidence and friendship. The company's camp staff are friendly, conscientious, highly skilled and great fun. All are used to working with children, understand their needs and have a natural desire to help young people discover and achieve their full potential.

The year group will leave promptly at 8.30am on Monday 29th June, so children will need to be at school by 8.15am. We will travel by school minibuses to Shropshire and activities will start at 10.00am. We will return to King's Hawford on Wednesday 1st July at approximately 2.00pm. Children can be collected from then on. The group will be led by Mrs Redman, accompanied by Mr Cook and two or three other members of staff.

The children will camp in bell tents in small groups and experience three days in the outdoors. Meals are cooked on site and are normally served outside, around the campfire. There is an indoor climbing room that converts to a dining room if the weather is not kind.

On arrival school groups are put into teams, Raleigh, Scott, Shackleton and Columbus. Each team will have an instructor with them, at all times, to guide them. All the tasks and activities are undertaken in these teams and in competition with their peers. Every child will get the chance to lead and to evaluate their team throughout the tasks. These are some of the activities that will be offered:

- 25 Army based command tasks
- Crate Stack
- Survival tasks
- Zip Line
- Challenge/Obstacle Course with 20 interconnecting low level obstacles. The objective is to get around the course without touching the ground.
- The Great Escape Challenge, which is a treasure hunt with tablets where the children navigate their way around the 120 acres with tasks to overcome at each checkpoint.

By the end of their experience, we hope that the children will have:

- Appreciated the value and benefits of teamwork.
- Grown in respect and appreciation for one another.

Ambition**Resilience****Humility****Creativity****Kindness****Artsmark
Gold Award**
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- Developed a sense of self responsibility.
- Acquired an effective team leadership model (probably without realising it).
- And most of all had fun and created memories!

The clothing list is a minimum requirement. It is essential that all clothing and kit is named, and it is suggested that it be packed in one large bag, if possible. Large sports bags or duffel bags are better than suitcases.

We can be contacted via the School Office in the event of an emergency. It is not necessary or even desirable, to equip your child with a mobile phone. Such items are easily damaged or lost. I would therefore ask that mobile phones, as well as electronic games and iPad are not sent. Expensive cameras and watches/smart watches should also be left at home. Please name everything!

This trip is also sweet-free! Therefore, please do not send sweets or treats with your child.

Essential medication with written instructions should be handed to Matron before the day of departure, so that they can give specific instructions to the accompanying staff. Inhalers, if needed, should be kept with the child and a spare inhaler, clearly named, handed in to staff.

Parents are advised that there is an element of risk in all outdoor activities. Written permission is required for each child taking part. Having read the information provided please complete the online consent form via the School Gateway by Monday 16th March 2026.

Should the need at any time arise, teachers supervising this school activity will, having made reasonable efforts to contact parents, exercise their power to authorise any medical treatment for your child which is advised by a qualified medical practitioner. Any parent who, for any reason, may be unwilling to accept this should consider whether to allow their child to participate. A parent who allows their child to participate will be considered to have accepted the teacher's right. Acceptance by one of two parents will be considered as acceptance as both.

Any child who participates in Outdoor Pursuits undertakes to behave sensibly and co-operate fully with those in charge for the duration of the event.

Finally, the cost of this trip will be £255.00. Having read the information provided, please complete online Parental Consent by Monday 16th March 2026. Payment can either be paid in full or in two instalments. Please ensure that you pay both instalments by Monday 27th April 2026. Payment will be needed to be made online, using the School's secure payment system 'School Gateway'.

To access 'School Gateway please visit www.schoolgateway.com. You will need your email address and mobile telephone number to register. A pin will be sent to your email, which you should use to access the site. You will be able to pay by credit card, debit card or instant bank transfer. If you have any difficulties accessing the site, please contact the Accounts Department on 01905 721727 for assistance.

There will be a pre-trip parents' meeting on Friday, 24th April 2026 at 4.00pm in N2, where you will find out more. But in the meantime, you can look at the website: www.thegreatescapecompany.co.uk or if you have any queries, you can email Mark Willis directly via the website.

Please feel free to contact me if there are any queries in the meantime.

Best wishes,



Mrs Janet Redman (B.Ed. Hons., M.Ed.)

EVC and Outdoor Activities Co-ordinator, King's Hawford

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