

North Halifax Grammar School

Living to Learn | Learning to Live

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21st November 2017

Dear Parent or Carer

I am writing to you because Year 9 Camp has been launched this week in school and we wanted to inform you of new and exciting changes to the camp for 2018. These changes will benefit the students and provide them with the opportunity to develop skills and resilience which will stand them in good stead for the future.

Camp is held during Activities Week and will run from Sunday 8th July to Friday 13th July 2018. The camp will be at Cragg Hill Farm, Horton in Ribblesdale in the Yorkshire Dales.

When on camp the students have the opportunity to participate in rock climbing, kayaking, caving, mountain biking and archery. The camp is based at the foot of Pen y Ghent and the students can take part in a group walk to climb this famous fell.

This year we are planning to introduce into Year 9 Camp the training and practice for the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award. If the students meet all the additional criteria below they will be encouraged to undertake the expedition at the start of Year 10 and be accredited with this prestigious award. To be eligible for the Assessment Expedition the students must complete:

- Volunteering section: 3 months
- Physical section: 3 months
- Skills section: 3 months

Please note: One of the sections above needs to be completed for duration of six months.

To complete the volunteering, physical and skills sections the students log on to the Duke of Edinburgh portal and provide evidence of the activities they have completed which need to be verified by an assessor. If you want to view more detailed information about the award please go to the Duke of Edinburgh Award website at: www.dofe.org.

There is a cost to register and participate in the award and the school has managed to include all registrations fees into the cost of Year 9 Camp without increasing your contribution. The cost to attend Year 9 Camp in 2018 is £160. This contribution also includes all accommodation, food, transport, specialist equipment and qualified instructors as well as the D of E registration costs. We ask that you make a voluntary contribution to cover the expense. You do not have to make a voluntary contribution, however, if there are not enough voluntary contributions to make the activity possible it will be cancelled.

If your child completes all the additional sections of the award and wants to go for the expedition in Year 10 there will be an additional cost. At this stage we don't know how many students will be successful in building their portfolio and will also want to participate in the expedition, so providing an exact figure for this is difficult but we envisage that it would be around £20.

More detailed information about the camp will be provided soon but should you require any information or clarification in the meantime please do not hesitate to contact Mr Jugroop at d.jugroop@nhgs.co.uk.

The Year 9 Camp is a wonderful experience and we hope to see all Year 9 students contribute to and benefit from this unique opportunity.

The cost of Year 9 camp is £160 and we would like you to make a ParentPay payment of £60 deposit by Friday 26th January 2018. You can log on to www.ParentPay.com and make your payment online - our preferred method of payment. We would then like the remaining balance of £100 to be paid by 18th May 2018. This could be done in installments or in one payment, using ParentPay.

This year students will get the opportunity to complete their Bronze D of E as well, so it is certainly an exciting time to be in Year 9 at NHGS.

Yours sincerely

Mrs K Hudson / Mr D Jugroop
Year 9 Camp Co-ordinators

Principal Mr A G Fisher

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