

Westcliff High School for Boys



Trips and Visits

2022-2024

Introduction

The purpose of this booklet is to provide an overview of the trips and visits that are typically offered at WHSB.

It is entirely possible that for a number of reasons, a trip published in this document does not run in a given year. If you are considering two options and are only prepared to commit to one, then it is advisable to contact the School to confirm if the second option is being offered.

There are a number of additional trips, some residential, but more often day trips, that are not covered here. This is because they are usually bespoke, invitation only or for very small numbers of pupils, such as the Oxford Residential, Engineering Education scheme and Holocaust Trust.

Details of trips and visits are included in the Westcliff Diary and each termly edition will provide reviews and accounts of the termly trips and visits. If you would like more information about the trips detailed below, please refer to the archived Westcliff Diaries, available on the website –

<https://www.whsb.essex.sch.uk/useful-information-for-all-parents/westcliff-diary>

If you would like to speak with a member of staff about the visits, then please contact the relevant department, or Pastoral Office who will be able to direct you to the Trip Leader.

All trips offered by the School are considered to be enriching either academically, or socially, but if pupils miss time from School, it is expected that they will make up the content missed in their own time in order to ensure good progress is maintained in all subjects.

ALBY Year 7 Outdoor Adventures



Year 7 pupils will visit an outdoor adventure centre. Whilst the purpose of the trip is for pupils to have an enjoyable day abseiling, rope climbing and taking part in a variety of watersports and other team-building activities, it will also represent, more importantly, an opportunity for pupils to become better acquainted with fellow pupils in their Houses and Forms.

Year Group	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approximate Cost
7	September	Day Trip	Annual	£45

Edinburgh Fringe Festival

With 53,232 performances of 3,398 shows in 300 venues in 2017, the Edinburgh Fringe Festival is the largest Arts Festival in the world. Running for three weeks in August, and featuring everything from big names in the world of entertainment to unknown artists looking to build their careers, the festival caters for everyone and includes theatre, comedy, dance, physical theatre, circus, cabaret, children's shows, musicals, opera, music, spoken word, exhibitions and events. This trip enables Westcliff students to perform theatre to an open and paying audience on the Fringe at an approved venue, as well as reviewing around twenty different performances, visiting Edinburgh Castle and attending the Royal Military Tattoo. The trip begins with five days of rehearsal in school, followed by an eight-day trip to Edinburgh, with daily performances and a schedule of show visits.



Year Group	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approximate Cost
7-13	August	5 days (in school) 8 days in Edinburgh	Biennial	£950 plus meals

Ski Trip



The School offers a Ski Trip each year with Andalo, Italy as our resort and with Equity Schools as our travel provider. The resort is based in Trentino which offers approximately 100km of prepared pistes and access to the high plateau at Paganella. The Hotel is situated with direct access to slopes, and our group will be able to ski down to ski school every day. We will travel by coach from the School, and the coach will be available for use during the week if we wish to visit other areas of the valley.

Year Group	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approximate Cost
8-11	February Half-term Holiday	8 days	Annual	£1200

Year 11 Battlefields Visit



This three day trip incorporates visits to some of the most famous sites around the Ypres Salient, where some of the most ferocious fighting on the Western Front took place, including: Zonnebeke Museum, which focuses on the British experience in the Battle of Passchendaele; Tyne Cot (the largest British & Commonwealth War Cemetery in the world); and Talbot House, which served as a retreat from the front line for soldiers of all ranks. The trip also incorporates visits to many key sites on the Somme, the scene in 1916 of a tragic introduction to the realities of trench warfare for the countless thousands of

Kitchener's New Army men. We have often been fortunate to secure the services of one of Britain's leading military historians and archaeologists of the war, Mr Andrew Robertshaw, who shows us some of the very latest work carried out to recover more of the Somme battlefield. His expertise has always been very insightful.

Year Group	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approximate Cost
11	September	3 days	Annual	£375

Spanish Trip - new for 2023

Our partner school in Spain is IES Albaída in Almería and our trip is designed to maximise time for us to spend with our Spanish friends.

During the February half-term holiday, we will travel by plane to Almería and stay in a 4* hotel not far from the school and within easy walking distance of local amenities, including a shopping centre. During the day we will visit the city of Almería, local museums, the university, spend time in the school and have free time to socialise with students from the school in the area near to the hotel. Day trips include: a visit to the Tabernas desert and Mini Hollywood theme park; a day in Granada with a visit to the Alhambra Palace; and a day at the Cabo do Gata nature reserve, with some hiking and visiting the beaches. Accommodation is half board.

The trip provides pupils at GCSE and students at A Level with a range of opportunities to become more globally aware, to communicate effectively in Spanish, collaborate with new friends, and to step outside their comfort zone to experience school life in another country.

Year Groups	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approximate Cost
10-13	February holiday	6 days	To be confirmed but hopefully annually	£1090



Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme

Bronze Award

Year 9 pupils are asked to apply for a place on the Bronze Award and it is expected that demand for places will be extremely high. The award is divided into four sections: Skills, Physical, Volunteering and Expedition. It is expected that students will complete the first three in their own time, each taking a minimum of 3 months to complete, but one (of their own choosing) taking six months. There will be regular meetings at lunchtime where challenges can be discussed, and training will be given for the Expedition section which will take place in the Summer and Autumn Terms.

Following in-school training activities, groups will complete their Bronze Award practice expedition in May/June of Year 9. Their aim is to navigate a planned route from a drop-off point in Hatfield Peverel to the Essex Outdoors Camp in Danbury where they camp overnight. Each group need to be self-sufficient and carry everything they require for the two days. The purpose of the expedition is to practise navigation and camp-craft for their qualifying expedition, which subsequently takes place in September of Year 10 when they repeat the process with a different route.

Year Group	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approximate Cost
9	June & September	2 x 2 days	Annual	£175



Silver Award

Many Year 10 pupils, having successfully navigated their way through the Bronze Award, will want to move on to their Silver Award, as well as some being direct entrants. This involves a similar regime to the Bronze Award, but pupils are expected to spend at least six months volunteering, a minimum of six months on either Physical or Skills and three months on the remaining option. The more challenging Expedition section will include a three-day practice venture in Sussex and a four-day assessment in the White Peak. These activities will take place in the Summer Term of Year 10 before and after the internal examinations.

Year Group	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approximate Cost
10	Summer term	3 day practice 4 day assessment	Annual	£225

Iceland

Langt sioan vio hofum sest ('Long time no see' in Icelandic)

That's right, the Geography department's trip to Iceland is back! Not only that, but it's now open to all students in Years 10 to 13 and it's going to be great! Iceland is every geographer's and every adventurer's dream. From its majestic volcanoes to its black sand beaches, its geothermal hot springs to the northern lights, it has just about everything. In April 2019, 3 intrepid teachers and 35 students travelled to Reykjavik for 3 nights to experience all that Iceland has to offer. The trip was oversubscribed and has a waiting list this year, so the hope is to run the trip biennially to allow all students the chance to visit. Please cross your fingers in the hope that we have a glimpse of the elusive aurora borealis!



Year Group	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approximate Cost
10-13	Easter Holidays	3 days	Biennial	£850

Year 10 Geology Visit to Swanage, Dorset



Geological field investigations are a compulsory requirement of the GCSE Geology course and Year 10 pupils will undertake field studies from a base in Swanage, Dorset.

The Dorset coastline has World Heritage Coastline status because of its geological interest, especially dinosaur fossils, and is the most visited geological area in the British Isles. Pupils will visit the iconic Lulworth Cove, Kimmeridge Bay and the Isle of Portland. In such locations and others, our geologists will be able to develop a knowledge and understanding of field geology as well as gaining an interest in, and appreciation of, the outdoor environment.

Year Group	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approximate Cost
10	March	7 days	Annual	£350

Lower Sixth Geology Trip – Isle of Arran

The Sixth Form Geologists annually conduct a field visit to the Loch Ranza Field Studies Centre on the Isle of Arran. From this location it will be possible to study the rocks, fossils, folding, faulting and landscapes in an iconic geological setting. Students will make a priority of collecting geological data for their investigation on igneous processes. This trip represents the very heart of Advanced Level Geology studies and allows geologists to develop a knowledge and understanding of fieldwork, as well as gaining an interest and appreciation of a famous outdoor environment.



Year Group	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approximate Cost
L6	Late June	7 days	Annual	£650

Year 10 Geography Stratford Field Trip

GCSE Geography pupils are required to conduct two days of fieldwork and data collection as part of their course. The results collected on physical and human geography topics are then examined in Paper 3. Year 10 Geographers annually conduct a one-day field visit to Stratford in east London, the site of the 2012 Olympic Games. At this location, pupils use data collection techniques to compare the impact of urban regeneration schemes on two contrasting areas, East Village and the Carpenter's Estate. Led by expert staff from the Field Studies Council, this trip develops essential geographical fieldwork and analytical skills, whilst broadening students' knowledge of the human geography course.

Year Group	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approximate Cost
10	July	1 day	Annual	£35

Year 11 Geography Walton on the Naze Field Trip

GCSE Geography pupils are required to conduct two days of fieldwork and data collection as part of their course. The results collected on physical and human geography topics are then examined in Paper 3. Year 11 Geographers annually conduct a one-day field visit to Walton-on-the-Naze, which is located on the North Sea coast in Essex. At this location, pupils use data collection techniques to test the impact of coastal management methods on processes and landforms. This trip develops essential geographical fieldwork and analytical skills, whilst broadening students' knowledge of the physical geography course.

Year Group	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approximate Cost
11	Late September / early October	1 day	Annual	£10

Sixth Form Geography Trip – Flatford Mill, Suffolk



Sixth Form Geography students are required to conduct four days of fieldwork and data collection as part of their course. The results that are collected on physical and human geography topics are then used in a coursework investigation, which counts for 20% of the total A Level marks. Geographers annually conduct a residential field visit, recently to the Flatford Mill Field Studies Centre, which is located in Suffolk, a short coach trip from Ipswich. From this location it is possible to undertake studies of rivers and flooding, urban change and public perception of it, and the management of physical and human environments. This trip develops essential geographical fieldwork and analytical skills, whilst broadening students’ knowledge of the Diverse Places and Physical

Systems and Sustainability topics.

Year Group	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approximate Cost
12	Late May / early June	3 days	Annual	£300

Physicists Visit to CERN

At CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research, physicists and engineers are probing the fundamental structure of the universe using some of the world's largest and most complex scientific instruments. Physicists study the basic constituents of matter and conduct experiments in which particles are made to collide together at close to the speed of light. This process gives the physicists clues about how the particles interact, and provides insights into the fundamental laws of nature.

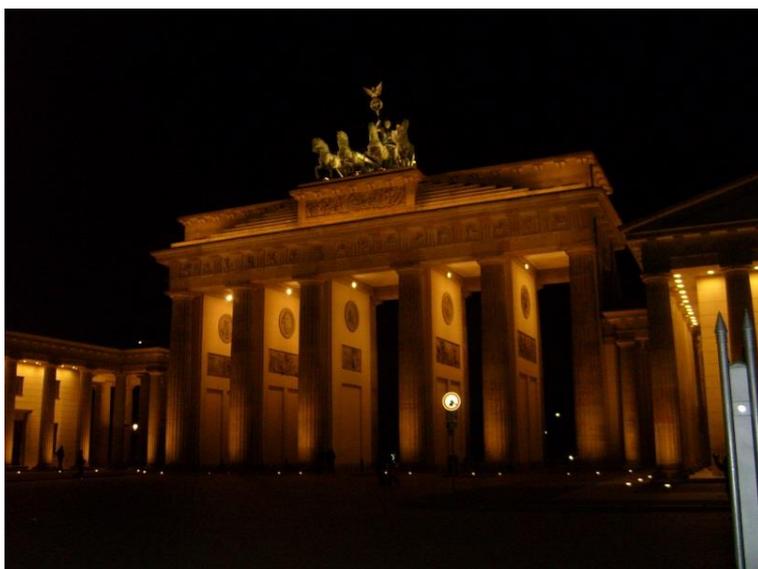
This trip presents a fantastic opportunity to see how cutting-edge physics research is carried out first-hand. The trip includes a guided tour of key CERN facilities by researchers who actually work there. We will also have the opportunity to enjoy fine Swiss cuisine at the famous CERN canteen. A trip to Geneva would not be complete without a tour of the UN Headquarters and a chance to explore the city. The trip is open to any Physics students in Year 12, however spaces are very limited. We have space for ten students only,



although the possibility exists for repeat trips later in the year if demand is high. The ten students will be randomly selected. The trip cost covers transport, accommodation for two nights, food and all visits.

Year Group	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approximate Cost
12	October	3 days	Annual	£375

History & German Trip to Berlin



Fifty percent of our History A Level course covers German history, and this tour is designed to allow students an opportunity to visit a number of sites central to Germany's history. The history of Berlin is rich, and the cultural attractions of the city are extensive. We visit the following sites of interest: the German Historical Museum; the architecturally acclaimed Jewish Museum and Reichstag; the historic Brandenburg Gate, Checkpoint Charlie and its Museum; the iconic boulevards of the Kurfürstendamm and Unter den Linden; the Schloss Charlottenberg where the Potsdam Conference took place; and Dachau Concentration Camp. We also visit the BMW Welt, historical sites at Nuremberg and

Weimar and the Friedrichspalast Theatre in Berlin, as well as a Berlin Jazz bar.

Year Group	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approximate Cost
12-13	February Half Term Holiday	5 days	Biennial	£1250

CCF Trips



The Combined Cadet Force runs a series of Trips across the School year. Cadets can expect to be involved in a Field Trip about once a term. Moreover, cadets may participate in various competitions which are planned at regional or national level across the year. In addition, individual cadets attend courses run at regional and national level. Every Summer both the Royal Navy and the Army Section participate in a week-long Summer Camp. The Royal Navy Summer Camp includes afloat training, adventurous training and personal development activities run from a regular Royal Navy ship.

Year Group	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approximate Cost
10-13	July	5 days	Annual	£75

The Army Summer Camp includes field training, shooting, adventurous training, First Aid, navigation, assault courses and various other options depending on the location of the camp, which will be a regular Army Training Camp.

Year Group	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approximate Cost
10-13	July	8 days	Annual	£75



The RAF Summer Camp includes flying, field training, shooting, adventurous training, First Aid, navigation, assault courses and various other options depending on the location of the camp, which will be a regular RAF Station.

Year Group	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approximate Cost
10-13	June or July	8 days	Annual	£75

The Army Section runs a Biennial Battle Camp which takes the form of a week-long Field Training Exercise followed by a day's adventure training as a 'decompression' exercise. As this is physically and mentally extremely demanding, it is usually limited to just senior cadets.



Year Group	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approximate Cost
11-13	April	8 days	Biennial	£150

Year 9 Rugby Tour



Within the WHSB Learner Profile, pupils are encouraged to be Open to Opportunity. Sport is an excellent vehicle to experience different cultures and experiences by playing against teams from other countries. The Physical Education Department run a Rugby Tour for Year 9 rugby players during the October half-term. The location of the tour varies from year to year. The pupils that go on the tour do so knowing that there is a commitment to play matches and train throughout the season. The cost of the trip varies depending on the location of the tour. Italy and France were approximately £650-700. Staying in the UK reduces the cost with a tour to

Wales costing roughly £400.

Within the cost of the trip is the food, tour kit and some sort of outing or experience whilst on the tour. The tour runs for between three and four days. Generally speaking, the departure will be early on the Saturday morning after the School has broken up for the October half-term break.

The tour is an excellent opportunity for pupils to experience the social elements of rugby. Pupils come back from the tour having played a couple of rugby matches and created memories that will last long beyond their years at WHSB.



Year Group	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approximate Cost
9	Oct Half Term	3 days	Annual	£400-700