



TRIPS AND VISITS 2025-2027



112 TRIPS in 2024

28 more than 2023!



9 Overseas Visits

That encouraged greater cultural awareness, enriched the curriculum, and broadened horizons for 361 participants

Globally Aware

24 Residential Visits

That created bonding and teamworking opportunities, and encouraged essential life skills such as independence, self-reliance, and decision making for 914 participants

Collaborative and Supportive and Personal Integrity



78 Day Visits

That enhanced and supplemented classwork learning by bringing the curriculum to life and providing memorable experiences for 2379 participants

Intellectual Curiosity



20 Adventurous Visits

That encouraged the development of deeper connections with nature and provided opportunities to enhance practical, problem-solving, and resilience building abilities and skills for 1045 participants

Open to Opportunity and Lifelong Learner



EVOLVE

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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 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.

Please be advised that costings are approximate and subject to change.

The School will endeavour to ensure that no pupil is excluded from this provision because of a genuine inability on the part of his or her parents to pay. Those designated PPG, or who are otherwise in financial difficulty, should first contact Mrs Marrant in the Finance Office, and may then be asked to write to the Headmaster via the Main Office, to request financial assistance, with clear reference to the relevant trip.

As part of the School's disciplinary procedures, we reserve the right to remove students from School trips and/or events if their behaviour is a cause for concern. If the School removes a student from trips and/or events, and a parent or carer has already paid for a trip and/or event, a refund will only be made if we are able to fill their place.

For foreign trips, the Headmaster also reserves the final say on whether a visa is necessary and require that you follow the coach to the port if a visa is not obtained, so that the trip is not disrupted if your child is refused entry by the border authorities. The School appreciates this may be highly inconvenient for you, however, it would minimise the potential risk of disruption to the trip.

Year 7 Transition and Teambuilding Trip

Early in Year 7 pupils go on an outdoor adventure trip, where they'll get to try out exciting activities like abseiling, rope climbing, and other teambuilding activities. While the day is all about having fun and taking on new challenges, it's also a chance for students to connect with others in their Houses and Forms.

They'll be working together on team-building activities, helping them bond and get to know their classmates better in a relaxed, outdoor setting. It's a perfect mix of adventure and making new friends.



Year Group	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approx. Cost	Time of Advert	Approx. Initial Deposit	Lead Member of Staff
7	September	1 day	Annual	£30	June	-	Mr Baggs

History Days Out

Our carefully planned History Days Out offer pupils the opportunity to explore some of the UK's most significant historical sites, deepening their understanding of key events and figures.

From the medieval stronghold of Dover Castle, which played a crucial role in defending Britain, to the iconic Tower of London, where history and legend intertwine, the ancient Colchester Castle, standing on the foundations of Roman Britain, and the magnificent Hampton Court Palace, once home to Henry VIII, each trip provides a fascinating, hands-on learning experience.



These visits not only enhance pupils' knowledge but also inspire curiosity, critical thinking, and a deeper appreciation for our nation's rich past.

Year Group	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approx. Cost	Time of Advert	Approx. Initial Deposit	Lead Member of Staff
7-10	Various	1 day	Three times a year	£50	One term in advance	-	History Department

Edinburgh Fringe Festival

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	Approx. Cost	Time of Advert	Approx. Initial Deposit	Lead Member of Staff
7-13	August	10 days plus 7 in School Prep	Biennial	£1400	12 months before	£250	Mr Jeffrey



Ski Trip

The School's annual ski trip has run for over 50 years. Whilst it started with pupils travelling by train to Switzerland, more recently we have travelled to Austria or Italy by coach. Many pupils on the trip have never skied before with some also grasping the opportunity annually. With travel, ski pass and kit hire included in the cost pupils attend morning and afternoon ski school sessions, run by nationally qualified instructors. By the end of the week all abilities are usually able to travel beyond the nursery slopes and explore further up the mountain.

Year Groups	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approx. Cost	Time of Advert	Approx. Initial Deposit	Lead Member of Staff
8-11	February half-term holiday	9 days	Annual	£1500	18 months before travel	£300	Mr Tresidder

Adventure Trip to the Ardèche

The Ardèche Adventure Trip offers students a challenging and rewarding outdoor experience in the Ardèche region of France. The trip includes a multi-day canoe descent through the Ardèche Gorge, providing an opportunity to develop resilience, teamwork, and problem-solving skills. In addition to canoeing, students take part in activities such as rock climbing and abseiling, all under the supervision of experienced instructors. Accommodation is in tented villages, with meals provided on-site.



Year Groups	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approx. Cost	Time of Advert	Approx. Initial Deposit	Lead Member of Staff
8-10	May half-term holiday	8 days	Annual/ Biennial	£1100	April previous year	£300	Mr Turner

European Sports Tours

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 Basketball Tour to Valencia during May 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.



Within the cost of the trip is breakfast and dinner, tour kit and some excursions whilst on tour. The tour runs for between three and four days. The tour is an excellent opportunity for pupils to experience the social elements of sport in another Country. Pupils come back from the tour having a completely new experience and created memories that will last long beyond their years at WHSB.

Year Groups	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approx. Cost	Time of Advert	Approx. Initial Deposit	Lead Member of Staff
9-10	May half-term holiday	4 days	Biennial	£1100	Previous year	£300	Mr Sexton

Spanish Trip to Andalusia

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, as well as to visit places of great cultural significance and heritage. We typically spend 4 nights in Almería and 2 nights in Córdoba.

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, 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. We also see a flamenco show. In Córdoba, we stay in a 3* hotel in walking distance of the main attractions. We visit the Mezquita-Catedral and explore the old city. We then travel to Seville on the last day, to visit the city and to fly home in the evening. Accommodation in both hotels is half board.

The trip provides pupils in Year 9, 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	Approx. Cost	Time of Advert	Approx. Initial Deposit	Lead Member of Staff
9-13	February half-term holiday	7 days	Annual	£1700	May	£350	Mr Madrid



Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme Bronze Award

In 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 during lunchtimes and after school where challenges can be discussed, and training will be given for the Expedition section which will take place in the Summer and Autumn Terms.

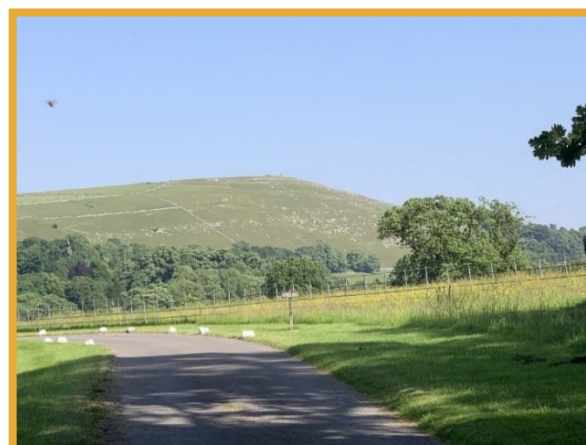


Following in-school training activities, groups will complete their Bronze Award practice day in July of Year 9, which is run around WHSB. This includes consolidation training and a half-day walk through Hockley Woods. Participants will then plan their route for the Assessment Expedition from a drop-off point in Hatfield Peverel to Essex Outdoors in Danbury.

Year Groups	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approx. Cost	Time of Advert	Approx. Initial Deposit	Lead Member of Staff
9/10	July and September	1 day 2 days	Annual	£215	January	-	Mr Tresidder

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 have 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 Groups	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approx. Cost	Time of Advert	Approx. Initial Deposit	Lead Member of Staff
10	May and June	3 days 4 days	Annual	£240	February	-	Mr Tresidder

CCF Trips - Field Weeks

CCF Cadets have the opportunity to attend training events in the Autumn and Spring Terms; Cadets will attend for 2 or 3 days, dependent on Section, Year Group and activity. Training will comprise of military and adventurous training, such as watersports, Skill at Arms training, shooting, field exercises, military establishment visits, orienteering, leadership activities, and other personal development events.



Year Groups	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approx. Cost	Time of Advert	Approx. Initial Deposit	Lead Member of Staff
9-13	October and February	2-3 days	Termly	£50	July/ November	-	Lt Col Baggs

Basic Field Exercise

Newly enrolled CCF Cadets in the Army and RAF Sections have the opportunity to attend a basic field training exercise on a Defence Training Estate, where they learn the fundamentals of living and operating in unfamiliar terrain. Cadets will learn basic military skills such as field cooking, shelters, patrolling, observation, and navigation.



Year Groups	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approx. Cost	Time of Advert	Approx. Initial Deposit	Lead Member of Staff
9	April	2 days	Annual	£40	March	-	Capt Allard

CCF Summer Camps

The culmination of the CCF Training Year are the Summer Camps. Army, Royal Navy and Royal Air Force Cadets undertake military and adventurous activities, designed to consolidate and practice the training conducted during parade evenings and events throughout the year. Some years, the camp is a single-service event, organised through the military command structure; other years, the Contingent will organise for all cadets to go on camp together, with CCF-led activities.



Year Groups	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approx. Cost	Time of Advert	Approx. Initial Deposit	Lead Member of Staff
10-13	July	5-7 days	Annual	£150	March	-	Lt Col Baggs



Year 10 Geology Visit to Swanage, Dorset

Geological field investigations are part 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 and Kimmeridge Bay.

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 Groups	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approx. Cost	Time of Advert	Approx. Initial Deposit	Lead Member of Staff
10	March	5 days	Annual	£500	October	£250	Mr Marlow

Year 10 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 10 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. In the summer term,

Year 10s also conduct fieldwork in Westcliff, looking at the impacts of social inequality on the quality of housing in contrasting locations. These trips develop essential geographical fieldwork and analytical skills, whilst broadening students' knowledge of the physical geography course.



Year Groups	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approx. Cost	Time of Advert	Approx. Initial Deposit	Lead Member of Staff
10	June	2 days	Annual	£20	May	-	Dr Shepherd

European History Trips in February

The History Department offers an exciting opportunity for students in Years 10–13 to visit either Germany or Normandy, two destinations rich in historical significance. The Germany trip explores the city's turbulent 20th-century history, including the rise of Nazi Germany, the Cold War, and the Berlin Wall. Students will visit key sites such as the Brandenburg Gate, the Reichstag, and the Holocaust Memorial deepening their understanding of European history and its lasting impact.

The Normandy trip offers students a fascinating insight into the region's medieval past, particularly its role in migration and conquest. As part of the GCSE course, students will explore key sites linked to the Norman expansion and the 20th Century.



Year Groups	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approx. Cost	Time of Advert	Approx. Initial Deposit	Lead Member of Staff
10-13	February half-term holiday	3-6 days	Annual	£1500	One year in advance	£250	Mr Jeffreys



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 Groups	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approx. Cost	Time of Advert	Approx. Initial Deposit	Lead Member of Staff
11	September	3 days	Annual	£450	May	£200	Mr Jeffreys

Lower Sixth Geology Trip – Isle of Arran

The Sixth Form Geologists annually conduct a field visit to the Lochranza 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 Groups	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approx. Cost	Time of Advert	Approx. Initial Deposit	Lead Member of Staff
12	July	7 days	Annual	£800 Depending on numbers	January	£250	Mr Marlow

Year 12 Geography Field Work

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 series of field visits; through data collection in Chalkwell and Brick Lane (east London) and at Belfairs park, 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 Groups	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approx. Cost	Time of Advert	Approx. Initial Deposit	Lead Member of Staff
12	June	3 days	Annual	£30	May	-	Dr Shepherd

Physicists Visit to CERN

Year 13 Physics students get to visit the Large Hadron Collider at CERN. There, they will tour parts of CERN and undertake laboratory work (if available). The trip also involves seeing the sights and sounds of Geneva, including the famous “Geneva by night walking tour” and sitting on the world’s longest bench!



Year Groups	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approx. Cost	Time of Advert	Approx. Initial Deposit	Lead Member of Staff
13	October half-term holiday (usually)	3 days (usually)	Annual	£800	Spring Term	£250	Mr Dalby

SUMMARY OF TRIPS

Trip Name	Year Group(s)	Date	Duration	Frequency	Approx. Cost	Time of Advert	Approx. Initial Deposit	Lead Member of Staff
Year 7 Transition and Teambuilding Trip	7	September	1 day	Annual	£30	June	-	Mr Baggs
History Days Out	7-10	Various	1 day	Three times a year	£50	One term prior	-	History Department
Edinburgh Fringe Festival	7-13	August	10 days plus 7 in School Prep	Biennial	£1400	12 months before	£250	Mr Jeffreys
Ski Trip	8-11	February Half-term holiday	9 days	Annual	£1500	18 months before	£300	Mr Tresidder
Adventure Trip to the Ardèche	8-10	May Half-term holiday	8 days	Annual/Biennial	£1100	April previous year	£300	Mr Turner
European Sports Tours	9-10	May Half-term holiday	4 days	Biennial	£1100	Previous year	£300	Mr Sexton
Spanish Trip to Andalusia	9-13	February Half-term holiday	7 days	Annual	£1700	May	£350	Mr Madrid
Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme - Bronze	9/10	July and September	1 days 2 days	Annual	£215	January	-	Mr Tresidder
Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme - Silver	10	May and June	3 days 4 days	Annual	£240	February	-	Mr Tresidder
CCF – Field Weeks	9-13	October and February	2-3 days	Termly	£50	July/November	-	Lt Col Baggs
CCF – Basic Field Exercise	9	April	2 days	Annual	£40	March	-	Capt Allard
CCF – Summer Camps	10-13	July	5-7 days	Annual	£150	March	-	Lt Col Baggs

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Year 10 Geology Visit to Swanage, Dorset	10	March	5 days	Annual	£500	October	£250	Mr Marlow
Year 10 Geography Walton on the Naze Field Trip	10	June	2 days	Annual	£20	May	-	Dr Shepherd
European History Trips in February	10-13	February Half-term holiday	3-6 days	Annual	£1500	One year in advance	£250	Mr Jeffreys
Year 11 Battlefields Visit European History Trips in February	11	September	3 days	Annual	£450	May	£200	Mr Jeffreys
Lower Sixth Geology Trip – Isle of Arran	12	July	7 days	Annual	£800 Depending on numbers	January	£250	Mr Marlow
Year 12 Geography Field Work	12	June	3 days	Annual	£30	May	-	Dr Shepherd
Physicists Visit to CERN	13	October Half-term holiday (usually)	3 days (usually)	Annual	£800	Spring Term	£250	Mr Dalby



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Headmaster: Mr M A Skelly M.A.

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