

Friday 15th November 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 8 and Year 9 Character Enrichment Activities – 16th & 17th July 2025

At the end of the academic year, we offer two days Character Enrichment Activities (CEAs) for the whole school to contribute to their Character education. These activities have been chosen specifically to focus on building students' resilience and self-awareness, as part of our Downlands ROCKS initiative. Every student must choose an activity as the entire school are off-timetable for these days.

The next page details our CEA offer for 2025. Please review the available activities with your child and select three CEAs that they would be interested to participate in, in order of preference with 1 being their first choice. We aim to give every student their first choice, but if an activity is oversubscribed, we will select names at random. Similarly, if a trip is not popular enough to run, we will offer your child their second choice - if this trip doesn't run, they will be offered their third choice. **You will receive a letter to confirm your child's CEA, giving full details of the two days activities, with payment information in a separate communication.**

Once your child has selected three CEAs that they would be interested in, click the link below to submit your child's choice; this must be done by **Friday 29th November 2024. If you enter a set of choices and then your child changes their mind just resubmit the form we will only use the latest one.**

[Y8 & Y9 CEA Choices- Online Request Form](#)

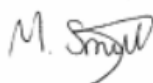
Our payment method for your child's CEA is online through SCOPAY. Full payment is required prior to the activity and by the date specified in the letter of confirmation. Advance payment is required as we must make full payment to suppliers well before July and in many cases, at the time of booking. If full payment is not received by the specified date, we will reallocate your child to a free, in school CEA.

If your child is Pupil Premium, the school will be reducing the cost of their CEA by 75% and you will be able to see the PP price on the next page. Once places have been confirmed, you will see the reduced cost on your SCOPAY.

Refunds can only be given if we are able to offer the place to another student well before the activity takes place, therefore please ensure you are fully aware of the estimated cost before completing the CEA choices form. Costs are estimated based on full capacity and anticipated costs from our suppliers. Prices may vary slightly, especially for activities using coaches, as the coach hire price remains the same whether we have 20 or 40 children, however we always try to keep the cost as near as possible to the anticipated cost.

Please find the list of Curriculum Enrichment Activities to choose from on the next page. Please remember every student is required to take part in an activity and to complete the form [online](#) by **Friday 29th November 2024**.

Yours faithfully,



Mr M Smith
Trips and CEA Co-ordinator

CEA	What?	Transport	Extra info	Cost	PP Cost
Take Aim	Students will have the opportunity to practice hitting a target... a live target! One day of Airsoft at Holmbush and one day of Laser Tag at Drivers Wood.	Coach arranged from and to Downlands.	Students will need a packed lunch for both days and plenty of water	£127	£32
Brighton Explore	Students will have the opportunity to test both their body and minds during two jam packed days in Brighton. The trip includes Escape Rooms at Pier Pressure, time on the Pier, Laser Tag at Laser Zone & Mini Golf at Jungle Rumble.	Parents responsible for buying train tickets for both days to meet at Brighton Station.	Students will need money to spend on the pier and to bring a packed lunch for both days.	£50	£12.50
Harry Potter	Calling all Potterheads! Students will spend one day visiting the Harry Potter Studios and the second day in school watching the films, with treats included!	Coach arranged from and to Downlands.	Students will need a packed lunch on day one and any spending money.	£50	£12.50
Brighton Creative	For those who fancy a slower pace to CEA. This trip includes painting a mug at the Pottery Café in Brighton, shopping for cupcake ingredients and then baking them in school on day two.	Parents responsible for buying train tickets on day one to Brighton. Meet at Downlands both days	Packed lunch or money to buy lunch needed on day one.	£38	£9.50
Railway Mania	Join Mr Stokes for a Steam extravaganza to the Bluebell Railway, riding the line and learning about steam locomotives. Day two will include experiencing the development of London transport through the ages at the London Transport Museum	Minibus and train tickets included in cost	Packed lunch needed on both days	£36	£9
Beach Activities	Enjoy two 'relaxing' days at the beach. And by relaxing we mean one day of volleyball at Yellowwave and one day of water sports at Hove Lagoon!	Parents responsible for buying train tickets both days to Brighton/Portslade.	Packed lunch needed but café open for snacks	£55	£13.75
Pedal & Paddle	Spend one day at Q Leisure go-karting (if your child is 4ft 2in or below they cannot do this CEA) and one day taking part in a range of water sports at Ardingly Reservoir.	Q Leisure (Albourne) & Ardingly – parents responsible for dropping off.	Packed lunch needed on both days (or spending money for cafés)	£134	£33.50
Virtual and Real Racing	Got the need for speed? Spend one day learning to race virtually at Vroom at Brighton Marina and then put your new skills to the test with a day of actual karting at Q Leisure. (if your child is 4ft 2in or below they cannot do this CEA)	Vroom – parents responsible for buying train and bus ticket to Marina Q Leisure – parents to drop off at Q Leisure Albourne	Packed lunch or spending money needed on both days	£92	£23
Rollercoaster	Exhilarating, hair-raising, and heart-stopping adventures await you! Spend one day designing your own theme park and the second actually at Thorpe Park	Coach arranged from and to Downlands	Packed lunch or money for lunch needed on day two.	£48	£12
Multi-sports	Take part in a range of sporting activities with the PE Department	In school both days	Canteen open in school	£0	£0
Arts & Crafts	Spend the day with the Art department in school	In school both days	Canteen open in school	£8	£2