



Shropshire
Gateway
Educational Trust

Lacon Childe School

...more than just a school

Head of School Mrs. Rachel Croxton-Broome
Consultant Executive Headteacher Mrs. Ruth Allen



2nd October 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Year 8 Arthog Outdoor Education Centre Trip

We are proposing to take a party of pupils, accompanied by teachers, to the above centre for the week Monday 23rd June to Friday 27th June 2025. The Centre is situated on the western coastal limits of the Snowdonia National Park overlooking the Mawddach Estuary in an area ideally suited for conservation work and outdoor pursuits. The Centre has comfortable dormitory accommodation, permanent kitchen staff, library and laboratory facilities, classroom and effective drying rooms.

Although the week is a lot of fun if everyone takes a full part, it is also about collaborative working and team development; the promotion of independent decision making; shared responsibility and sustainable use of resources. The week meets a wide variety of curriculum aims. All instructional staff at the centre are fully qualified and hold nationally and internationally recognised qualifications in outdoor education.

Students will leave school at 9.00am on Monday 23rd June and return approximately 4.30pm on Friday 27th June 2025. Pupils will take part in a wide range of outdoor adventurous activities, including rock climbing; kayaking or canoeing; surfing or “sit-on-top” kayaking; gorge walking; rope courses and orienteering. In addition, they will take part in the John Muir Award at “Discovery” level, including a short conservation topic. It should be noted that some activities are weather dependent and may be changed at short notice.

The cost for each pupil for this visit to Arthog will be £427. Having considered other options, the centre at Arthog still represents good value for money. There are a maximum of 60 places available due to centre restrictions. This sum covers the costs of return transport to the centre, accommodation, fully qualified instructional staff, overnight emergency duty staff, use of specialist equipment, food and a very small contingency.

Full payment for this trip is needed by Friday 21st March and we suggest the following payment instalments listed below. Payment may be made in more regular, smaller amounts after the first deposit is paid. This contract for payment is between yourself as parent/carer and Arthog Outdoor Education Centre (Telford and Wrekin Council), and we must abide by their payment policy. If final payment is not received by this date, the place on the visit will be considered cancelled and subject to the cancellation policy. Please note that cancellations within sixteen weeks of the event will result in the full cost of the trip being forfeited, unless a replacement pupil takes the available place.

Cancellation Policy: The first deposit is non-refundable, unless a medical certificate is provided or a **reserve pupil is able to take the place.**

- Cancellation within 9-6 months before start of the course – 25% of cost = £106
- Cancellation within 6-4 months before start of course – 75% of cost = £320
- Cancellation within 4 months of the start of course – 100% of the cost

Insurance: Telford and Wrekin Council carries appropriate public liability insurance to cover claims arising from negligence or that of its employees and is under no obligation whatsoever in respect of personal injury or loss. **We strongly advise you to arrange Personal Accident or Travel Insurance.** If the present situation changes advice will be issued when necessary.

Payment Schedule:

Initial Deposit by Friday 1 st November 2024	£50
Friday 29 th November 2024	£120
Friday 10 th January 2025	£50
Friday 7 th February 2025	£107
Friday 21 st March 2025	£100

Total **£427**

On-line Payments: You will be able to make payments for this trip using the Trips section in your Arbor account.

Personal Data: Personal data will only be shared with specific staff, to safeguard the interests of all participants and staff. This will include relevant medical details; food allergies; behaviour management information etc. In addition, next of kin and emergency contact details will be required. This information will be securely stored and destroyed following the course. If there has been an incident or accident, the school and Telford and Wrekin Council will retain such records electronically until the young person reaches the age of 25, (or for 7 years in the case of an adult), when they will be destroyed.

Due to the nature of this visit, we reserve the right to refuse a place to any pupil on the grounds of poor behaviour. We will expect pupils to agree to a code of behaviour similar to that expected in school, in relation to this visit. In serious cases of misbehaviour, the Head of Centre may require a pupil to return home. This will be at the parent/carers expense.

To secure a place on the visit, please pay the initial deposit of £50 (via Arbor) by Friday 1st November 2024. Please note, that if more than 60 pupils respond, a draw will be held to confirm places.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Shepherd
Teacher Of English & PSHE Co-Ordinator

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The Shropshire Gateway Educational Trust

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