



Dear Parent / Guardian,

Activities Week 2026

The week of 22nd June to 26th June 2026 will be Wensleydale School Activities Week. Following the success of Activities Week last year in July 2025, we have decided to expand the options available to students. The range of offsite trips and on site activities are designed to enrich the academic curriculum alongside the student's understanding of the world.

Year 11 will have completed their last exam and celebrated their hard work with Prom here at school by the 19th June 2026. The Activities Week will then start on Monday 22nd June for Years 7 to 10. The available trips listed below are brief descriptions so parents can see the range and for which year groups they will be on offer. Detailed information and costs will be sent out by the teachers running the trips in the coming weeks.

- **Year 7** will have the opportunity to take part in a residential trip to **London**, where they will experience the city's rich culture and history first-hand. During the visit, pupils will tour some of London's most famous sights, including the Houses of Parliament, and enjoy guided activities that bring their learning to life. Evenings will include the chance to see a couple of West End theatre shows, giving students a memorable taste of London's world-class arts scene. The trip will combine education with fun, helping students build independence, confidence, and shared experiences with their peers.
- **Year 8** will have the opportunity to practice their French during the 4 night, 5-day trip to **Normandy in northern France**. Activities will include making French biscuits, visiting the D Day beaches and exploring the stunning tidal island of Mont Saint Michel, renowned for its majestic abbey and medieval village, set within a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Travel will be by bus and ferry.
- **Year 9** will be visiting the **First World War Battlefields of Belgium and France**. This is a 4 day, 3-night visit based around Ypres in Belgium. A day is also spent in France around the Somme area. The visit is to support learning in the classroom of the Great War and is an opportunity for students to experience how soldiers of both sides are remembered, how the war was fought and to keep the memory alive of local men who went to fight for their country but sadly never returned home.
- **Year 10** will be taking part in **Work Experience** during the week. This is to support students in their career choices and begins the process of their post 16 careers programme. Students will be expected to organise their own placement and will be using Unifrog as part of this process. It is an exciting opportunity to immerse themselves in the

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palace of work for a full week and get a glimpse of what they may want to work in when they leave school and college.

- For students in Years 7, 8 and 9 who choose not to go on one of the residential trips there will be a **week of activities to celebrate Yorkshire's culture, history and ecology**. Day trips to Nosterfield (a local nature reserve), the county town of York as well as the National Park and many more, there will also be on site activities including art projects and local walks. All this combined will give the students a week where they can celebrate the area in which they live and the county they call home.
- For students in Years 8 and 9 who are part of the CCF and choose not to go on the other activities they will be able to take part in **Cadet related activities** based around school. The week will include a range of outdoor activities. The selection will include some or all of the following: a one day & one-night camping and walking expedition; an orienteering competition run by the Army Orienteering Association; a day with the Catterick Garrison Sailing Club; working with Search & Rescue Dog Association (SARDA) search dogs; visit from Cleveland Mountain Rescue Team - how to cope in an outdoor emergency; air rifle shooting combat simulator range; First Aid.

The details of each residential off site trip will be sent out to year groups in the coming weeks with the details of costs and timings. There will be two main options for every student:

- Option 1 the residential trip for their year group
- Option 2 the onsite activities week celebrating the local area
 - Option 2b for those on site and members of the CCF, will be able to choose the Cadet related activities for the week.

We are very excited about experiences on offer for students. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me on charles.barnett@wensleydaleschool.net.

Kind regards,

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