



All Hallows Catholic College

A Voluntary Academy

Aspire not to have more but to be more

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Principal - Mr T Beesley

Dear Parent/Carer,

14th September 2023

YEAR 7 ACTIVITY RETREAT

Your son/daughter is invited to attend a three-day residential retreat at Alton Castle Catholic Youth Retreat Centre in Staffordshire, from **Monday November 20th to Wednesday November 22nd**. Leaving at around 2.30pm on Monday (with normal lessons up to 2pm) and returning in time for the college coaches on Wednesday. The retreat will include fun outdoor activities, meditation and time for reflection, and it is a superb opportunity for students to enjoy shared accommodation with their friends and to make new friends through team-building activities.

The retreat aims to raise self-esteem, to strengthen and build friendships, and to help every young person realise their potential as a unique human being created by God. Students can participate in a wide variety of activities during their stay including mountain biking, trekking, crate-stacking, archery, a climbing wall, escape room and survival. As testified by the many students who have attended these residential retreats, they have found the experience to be very rewarding, often profoundly so.

We believe this to be a very valuable opportunity for all students. All Hallows has taken part in this retreat for many years and it always proves to be very popular and over-subscribed, so please book early as we can only offer 50 places.

The cost of the retreat including travel expenses, meals, accommodation and recreational activities is **£191**. If your son/daughter wishes to attend, go to the College's online *ParentPay* system, log on and pay the non-refundable deposit of £50 (or the full amount of £191) and tick the permission box. **The balance must be paid by Friday 13th October**. If you have any queries regarding how to pay online, please contact trips@allhallows.org.uk

You will need to complete a medical form [HERE](#).

All Hallows Catholic College is keen that every child be given every opportunity to participate in a residential retreat experience. We recognise, however, that there may be students who wish to attend, but who, for whatever reason, cannot meet the full cost of the trip if this is the case, or if your child is eligible for Free School Meals, please contact our Finance Office to discuss in the strictest confidence how we can financially support for your child going on the retreat with their friends.

A further letter will follow to those attending the retreat with a full kit list but here are some suggestions regarding clothing, to give you plenty of time to borrow or buy. Please bear in mind the retreat is being held in November in a genuine castle- your son/daughter will need warm clothes which they can layer, waterproof clothes, sturdy boots/ wellies for outdoors and trainers for indoors. Parents must not feel they need to buy new clothes and hopefully you can borrow items you do not have.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs P Livesey (Lay Chaplain)



Honourable Purpose



Respect



Compassion



Co-operation



Stewardship