



7th December 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

TST 5-day Sailing Experience
16th – 20th September 2019

We are proud to be organising an exciting sailing experience from Chatham to Portsmouth, for the Victory Academy and Holcombe Grammar School students.

The trip is an excellent opportunity for students to learn not just how to sail, but importantly to develop their team-building, leadership, and communication skills, as well as boost their confidence, self-esteem and resilience during the voyage as they navigate through this exhilarating journey. For those who have previously been on a sailing trip, there will be plenty of opportunity to improve their knowledge and ability to steer and operate all the equipment onboard.

The OYT sailing experience consists of a five-day trip between Chatham and Portsmouth, not only linking the Trust's schools but also highlighting the connection with HMS Victory and the two locations. The pupils will be taught all practical and mental skills needed by the crew and will rotate around each job so that everyone will be able to control each aspect of the boat.

The cost of the trip is £434.00 per person, and the students will be supported through regular enterprise sessions to raise the funds themselves with assistance from the school. We are also looking into other ways to subsidise the cost for the students.

Costs covered include:

- Vessel Hire & Fuel
- Accommodation
- Fully Qualified Skipper and support for the students

A kit list required for the trip will be provided at a later date.

The only additional costs to the students is to cover food and fuel for the school minibus which will drop them off for departure and collect them from Portsmouth for the return to school. The exact cost of this is to be confirmed but should be no more than £60 per student.

This also enables the students to develop planning and budgeting skills as part of the preparation for the trip, as well as learning about healthy eating. The students would be in watches on the voyage, taking it in turn to prepare and cook the meals (under supervision).

Places are limited to 6 students from each school with 1 of these reserved in each school for students who are part of the Victory Unit sea cadets. If we receive more applications that we have places



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www.thevictoryacademy.org.uk

Executive Principal: Ms M Gage BA (Hons) NPQH
Chief Executive Officer: Mr S Gardner BA (Hons) MSc NPQH NLE

Magpie Hall Road, Chatham,
Kent, ME4 5JB

T: 01634 303005
E: office@thevictoryacademy.org.uk

The Victory Academy is a member of The Thinking Schools Academy Trust, whose registered address is Park Crescent, Chatham, Kent, ME4 6NR. A company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales. Company Number: 7359755



available, a selection process will be applied. All those applying will need to commit to a programme of fund raising and enterprise initiatives to raise funds for the trip.

Due to this, a £50 deposit is required to be handed in with completed application and consent forms by Friday 21st December. Submissions for this trip will only be accepted if both the application form and payment are submitted at the same time and are in a sealed envelope. (Unsuccessful candidates will, of course, have their deposit returned). If you are experiencing financial difficulties, please don't let this deter you from applying. Please make contact with the school so that support can be provided as necessary.

Parents Information Evening

I would like to invite you to a parent & student presentation at school on Wednesday 19th December at 6pm. This will provide students and parents/guardians with further information regarding the trip. At the end of the evening, an application & consent form will be required to be completed for those who wish to partake. If you are not able to attend, the form is available on request.

Please complete and return the below slip by Friday 14th December to advise whether or not you will be attending the presentation.

For any further information prior to the information evening, please visit the Cirdan Trust Website; <https://cirdantrust.org> or, please contact Jeremy Grant-Jones; jeremy@contourschools.co.uk / 07717826119

Yours sincerely,

Ms Janina Villalta
Head of School

TST Sailing Experience 2019

I/we will be able to attend the parent presentation at 6pm on Wednesday 19th December

I/we will not be able to attend the parent presentation but would like more information.

Child's Name..... Class/Form

Name of Parent/Carer

Contact Email Address



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