

# Activities Week '26

## Residential Opportunities



# Introduction to residential opportunities



I am delighted to introduce our exciting range of **residential trips** for Cheltenham Bournside School's **Activities Week, July 2026**, having taken over as Trips lead for Bournside this year.

These residential experiences are being launched **ahead of our day trip packages**, which will be released later in the year. Each trip offers our students the opportunity to challenge themselves, explore new environments, and build lasting memories alongside their peers.

If you would like your child to take part in one of these residential, please select the relevant **MCAS link**, to complete the consent form and make the **initial deposit payment**. Once the sign-up deadline has passed, you will receive a detailed letter from the named **Trip Leader** containing all the key information, including the confirmed itinerary, travel arrangements, timings, and details of the parent information evening.

Should you wish to find out more before committing, please contact the relevant **Trip Leader** directly. We are proud to offer such a diverse and enriching programme of opportunities as part of Activities Week. These experiences allow our students to grow in confidence, independence, and resilience – qualities that extend far beyond the classroom.

Warm regards,

**Mrs Shanks**

Assistant Headteacher and Teacher of Geography

**Please note:** While our residential trips offer wonderful experiences, students who do not sign up for a residential will not miss out, as they will be invited to take part in our inspiring annual Activities Week programme during the week commencing Monday 13th July.





# Residential opportunities overview

Activities Week 2026



## Year 7 | Château Beaumont, France Trip code: 2526041

This five-day Modern Languages-led trip to Château Beaumont combines cultural discovery with adventure. Students will visit Fougères Castle, Mont Saint-Michel, Saint-Malo, Gontier Market, and Laval Town and Museum, alongside on-site activities at the château. The trip concludes with a visit to Arromanches and the D-Day Landing Museum.

- **Cost: £695 | Spaces: 40**
- **Travel dates: Monday 13th - Friday 17th July.**
- **Trip leader: Mrs Littlewood**



## Year 8 | Exmoor Trip code: 2526024

A four-day Geography-led residential at the Pinkery Outdoor Education Centre in Exmoor National Park. Students will explore Cornham Mines, complete river fieldwork, and enjoy activities such as climbing at the Valley of the Rocks, a coastal walk, bushcraft, orienteering, low ropes, and a campfire evening.

- **Cost: £265 | Spaces: 35**
- **Travel dates: Monday 13th - Thursday 16th July.**
- **Trip leader: Miss Daulton**



## Year 9 | Mendip Base Camp Trip code: 2526033

The Year Camp is our highlight five-day whole group adventure at the Mendip Activity Centre. Students will enjoy activities such as bushcraft, paddleboarding, archery, axe throwing, and team challenges, with evenings filled with fun and friendship. Each student will earn their National Outdoor Learning Award too.

- **Cost: £460 | Spaces: 120**
- **Travel dates: Sunday 12th - Thursday 16th July**
- **Trip leader: Miss Goddard**



## Year 10+ | Ardèche, France Trip code: 2526011

A week-long multi-activity trip for Year 10+ students in the Ardèche region of France. Activities include a two-day river descent by canoe, climbing, kayaking, archery, high ropes, and an excursion day.

- **Cost: £1,200 | Spaces: 40**
- **Travel dates: Friday 10th - Friday 17th July**
- **Trip leader: Mrs Rudge-Wills**



## Gold DofE | Tarentaise Valley Trip code: n/a

An adventure for registered Gold DofE students in the stunning setting of the Tarentaise Valley, France, featuring a 4-day Alps expedition, white water rafting, and a high ropes course.

- **Spaces: Limited to registered Gold DofE students**
- **Travel dates: Friday 10th - Friday 17th July**
- **Trip leader: Mrs McCormack**





Trip code: 2526041

# Year 7 | Château Beaumont, France

We are thrilled to offer our Year 7 students the opportunity to experience an unforgettable week in France led by the Modern Languages department, at [Château Beaumont](#), a specialist school trip centre in the beautiful Loire region.

This residential combines cultural discovery with adventure, giving students the chance to explore historic French towns and landmarks while developing confidence, independence, and teamwork skills.

During the week, students will visit Fougères Castle, Mont Saint-Michel, and Saint-Malo, explore Gontier Market and Laval Town and Museum, and enjoy a range of exciting on-site adventure activities at the château. The trip concludes with a visit to Arromanches and the D-Day Landing Museum, offering a fascinating insight into France's wartime history.

## Key details:

The total cost of the trip is **£695**, with additional spending money recommended for meals during travel and personal souvenirs. There are **40** places available, and we expect demand to be high for this popular residential experience.

## Payment plan:

22/10/25 Non-refundable holding deposit of £150  
10/02/26 Non-refundable 1st deposit of £200  
23/03/26 Non-refundable 2nd deposit of £200  
18/05/26 Final payment of £145

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Trip code: 2526024

Activities Week 2026

# Year 8 | Exmoor

We are excited to offer our Year 8 students the chance to experience an unforgettable four-day Geography-led adventure in the heart of **Exmoor National Park**, staying at the [Pinkery Outdoor Education Centre](#).

Students will explore the area's rich geography and history with a visit to Cornham Mines, a climbing session at the Valley of the Rocks, and a coastal walk offering spectacular views. They'll also be heading to the river at Cornham Mines to carry out geography fieldwork in the water, where they'll measure infiltration rates, flow velocity, and other key river features - so wellies are a must!

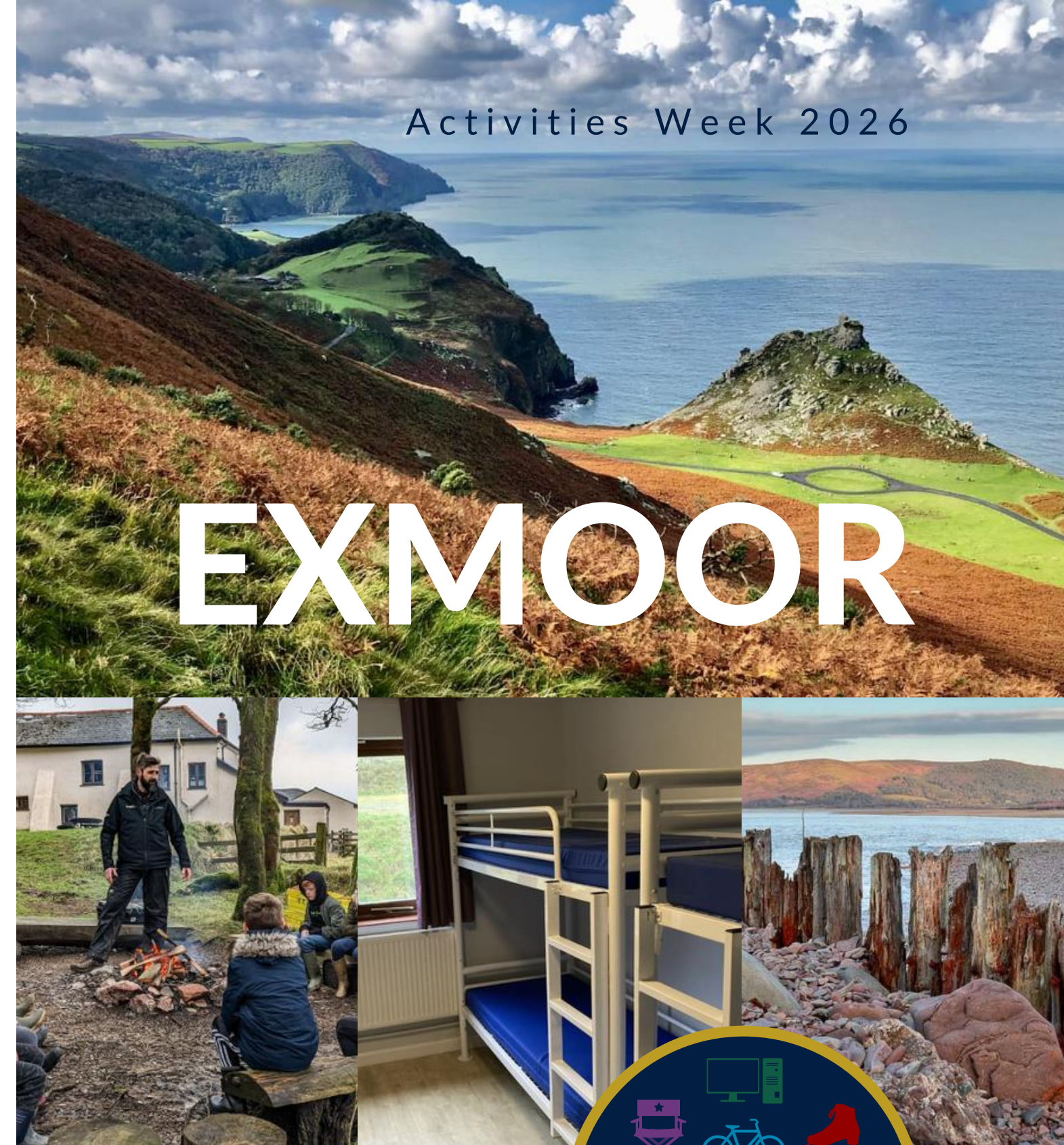
This action-packed residential combines outdoor learning, exploration, and adventure. Additional activities include bushcraft, orienteering, a low ropes course, and a traditional campfire evening.

## Key details:

The total cost of the trip is **£265**, with **35** places available. Students will need appropriate outdoor equipment such as waterproofs and walking boots, along with a small amount of pocket money for a possible seaside visit.

## Payment plan:

22/10/25 Non-refundable holding deposit of £100  
10/02/26 Non-refundable 1st deposit of £100  
23/04/26 Non-refundable 2nd deposit of £65





Trip code: 2526033

# Year 9 Camp | Mendip Base Camp

Our **flagship Year 9 Camp**, led by the P.E. department, offers an unforgettable five-day outdoor adventure at [Mendip Activity Centre](#), one of the UK's leading outdoor education providers. Taking place from Sunday 12th to Thursday 16th July, this residential is packed with exciting challenges, teamwork, and personal growth.

Each day follows a structured programme of adventure, including activities such as bushcraft, Mission Impossible team challenges, air rifle shooting, archery active, stand-up paddleboarding, axe throwing, and tackling the assault course. Evenings bring shared experiences around the camp, with activities designed to build friendships and confidence.

Students will work towards and receive their National Outdoor Learning Award at the end of the week – a recognition of their resilience, teamwork, and new skills developed throughout the camp.

## Key details:

The total cost of the trip is **£460**, with **120** places available. Students may wish to bring a small amount of pocket money for the on-site tuck shop.

## Payment plan:

22/10/25 Non-refundable holding deposit of £160  
10/02/26 Non-refundable 1st deposit of £100  
23/03/26 Non-refundable 2nd deposit of £100  
18/05/26 Final payment of £100

## Activities Week 2026



Year 9 Camp is a truly special Bournside tradition and highlight, offering students the chance to challenge themselves, make lasting memories, and celebrate the spirit of adventure with friends, old and new!.





Trip code: 2526033

# Year 9 Camp | Mendip Base Camp

What our students said:

**“SO good! I loved it so much, it was so much fun and I didn’t want to leave.”**

**“The site and the staff were amazing! It was a very good week! My favourite part was the paddleboarding.”**

**“I had SO MUCH fun on this trip, learned new skills and challenged myself and others. I really enjoyed the mud obstacle course and abseiling.”**

**“It was really fun and I learned new stuff. My favourite was the canoeing and bushcraft.”**



**CHELtenham  
BOURNside  
SCHOOL**

**Travel dates: Sunday 12th July - Thursday 16th July**

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Year 9 Camp is a truly special Bournside tradition and highlight, offering students the chance to challenge themselves, make lasting memories, and celebrate the spirit of adventure with friends, old and new!.



# CAMP





Trip code: 2526011

# Year 10+ | Ardèche, France

We are thrilled to offer students in Year 10 and above the opportunity to take part in our popular and unforgettable **Ardèche Adventure**, a week-long multi-activity residential in the stunning Ardèche region of southern France.

This action-packed trip is designed for students who love challenge and adventure. The week includes an exhilarating two-day river descent by canoe, climbing, kayaking, archery, a high ropes course, and a dedicated excursion day to explore the local culture and scenery. Each day brings new opportunities to build confidence, teamwork, and resilience, all while enjoying the breathtaking natural beauty of the Ardèche Gorge.

This adventurous and rewarding experience offers students the chance to develop independence, make lasting friendships, and create memories that will last a lifetime.

## Key details:

The total cost of the trip is **£1,200**, with **40** places available. Travel is by coach and ferry. Students should bring some additional money for meals while travelling.

## Payment plan:

22/10/25 Non-refundable holding deposit of £250  
05/12/25 Non-refundable 1st deposit of £250  
06/02/26 £250  
20/04/26 £250  
01/05/26 Final payment of £200





Trip code: n/a

# DofE Gold | Tarentaise Valley, France

We are excited to offer our senior **Gold Duke of Edinburgh students** an extraordinary week-long expedition to the **Tarentaise Valley** in the French Alps, taking place during Activities Week from 10th to 17th July. This challenging and rewarding residential combines adventure, skill development, and personal growth.

Students will take part in a 4-day expedition in the Alps, preceded by a 3-day separate practice expedition in the Brecon Beacons to build confidence and competence in navigation, teamwork, and resilience. Additional activities include a high ropes course, white water rafting, and essential expedition training sessions. Meals during the Alps expedition and flights are included in the trip cost.

This trip is designed to push boundaries, develop independence, and create a truly memorable achievement for participating students.

## Key details:

Please note, places are available only to registered **Gold Duke of Edinburgh students**. Please speak to Mrs McCormack for more information/to register interest for future DofE Gold Award sign up.



Duke of Edinburgh Award opportunities start in Year 9 with the **Bronze Award**. Look out for more information from Mrs McCormack!

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# Information relating to all residential trips

- **Financial support:** If your child is a Pupil Premium student and you require financial assistance, please contact Mrs Shanks at [kshanks@bournside.com](mailto:kshanks@bournside.com).
- **Oversubscribed trips:** If a trip is oversubscribed, students' names will be drawn by ballot after the deadline has passed.
- **Behaviour and conduct:** All students attending residentials must sign a code of conduct. Mobile phone use will be limited, in line with our Smartphone-Free School policy. Students may be removed or banned from trips if their attendance or behaviour does not meet school expectations.
- **Payments:** Payments are non-refundable, unless a replacement student can be found for the booked place.
- **Safety and supervision:** All trip leaders are first-aid trained, and staff-to-student ratios follow national guidelines.
- **International travel:** For international trips, it is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to ensure that students hold a valid British passport and obtain a visa if required.

