


Plymstock School Challenge Week

Choices Booklet Year 8 and Year 9

Monday 7th July-
Friday 11th July 2025



ABOUT CHALLENGE WEEK

Students will choose from a variety of activities that take place beyond the classroom. This week is **not optional**- normal attendance is expected.

Select a first and second choice activity for the week.

REQUESTING YOUR ACTIVITY

When you have read the booklet and made your selection, please fill in the options form either electronically via link below, OR complete the back page and return it to your child's form tutor by **Friday 29th November**.

I shall then process all the forms and let you know which activity your child has been allocated to.

Choices form: <https://forms.office.com/e/tjzFzj0vXi>

It is possible that your second choice will be needed, so please choose this with as much care as your first choice.

A deposit does not guarantee a place on an activity, a place may be reviewed based on school attendance and behaviour in school.

PAYMENT AND COSTS

Payments for all activities need to be paid through Parent Pay. If you have any questions about paying via Parent Pay, please contact the school finance department. Further details will be provided about how to pay for your child's allocation in due course.

All activities require a non-refundable deposit. We accept instalments for higher cost activities.

Payment must be made in full by the end of April 2025.

Please note: Costs are projected based on spaces available and are subject to change if not at full-capacity.

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE WEEK

Meals: Packed lunches for off-site activities will be provided if your child normally has a free school meal.

Clothing: Students can wear casual clothes during the week. Extreme styles and jewellery will not be allowed. Information about clothing for the various activities will be provided by the trip leader nearer the time.

BEHAVIOUR

At Plymstock School we have high expectations of the behaviour of our students when off the school premises. We must ensure that students' behaviour does not threaten the health or safety of other students, staff or members of the public, that we provide reassurance to members of the public about the school care and control over students and thus protect the reputation of the school and to provide protection to the individual staff from harmful conduct by students of the school when not on the school site.

Where a student does not behave to the standards and expectations outlined above. Plymstock School reserves the right to remove any student from an activity being held off school site (including day trips and residential).

Furthermore, where behaviour consistently falls below the standards and expectations within school, Plymstock School will remove the students from any planned activity, day trips, educational visit or residential. In such cases, we cannot guarantee that a refund will be provided.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

We are aware of the potential hazards involved in adventure activities. It can sometimes be difficult, almost impossible, to create an opportunity for challenge whilst totally eliminating all risks. We hear of schools withdrawing from all types of such activity because of the risk of unforeseen danger or threat to the wellbeing of their children.

The staff involved in organising the activities have paid great attention to health and safety and some activities have been modified as a consequence. Where activities take place in a potentially hazardous environment, tuition and supervision by properly qualified instructors have been arranged. In situations where teachers at the school possess appropriate qualifications, their expertise is being fully employed to provide children with real adventure at reduced costs. Every activity included has been examined for health and safety and adequate staff/student ratios. As a result we can confidently offer a wide range of activities which are within the Education Authority's strict safety guidelines.

If you have any health and safety queries about any of the activities in this booklet, please do not hesitate to contact the school to discuss the matter with either Mrs Prowse (Enrichment Week Co-Ordinator) or Miss Edwards (Educational Visits Co-Ordinator) who have overview of all the activities and risk assessments.

RESIDENTIALS

The following residential trips are bookable via deposit payment on Parent Pay from **10am** on **Wednesday 20th November: Paris, Extreme Cornwall, and London Sightseeing and Shows**. Please also complete the option form via the link or at the back of this booklet- this will help me to keep friendship groups together and manage reserve spaces.

If you are successful in getting a place on a residential, you must still complete the form via the link with this activity as your first choice, as well as a second choice.

If you are unsuccessful in getting a place on a residential, and wish to be on a waiting list, tick which residential(s) you are interested in.

A deposit does not guarantee a place on an activity, a place may be reviewed based on school attendance and behaviour in school.

A letter with more details about the below trips has been sent via Class Charts with the digital copy of the Challenge Week 2025 booklet.

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	COST
Paris	Visit Paris and experience the theme parks. Letter explaining details sent via Class Charts. Places can be booked via a deposit on Parent Pay.	£792
Extreme Cornwall	Visit Cornwall for sun sea and surfing. Letter explaining details sent via Class Charts. Places can be booked via a deposit on Parent Pay.	£535
London Sightseeing and Shows	Visit London and experience West-End performances, theatre workshop and sightseeing. Letter explaining details sent via Class Charts. Places can be booked via a deposit on Parent Pay.	£740
PGL Barton Hall Torquay	Students will take part in a range of activities. For example: climbing; zip wire; swimming; and challenges.	£405

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DAILY ACTIVITIES AND TRIPS

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	COST
Animal Magic	Spend a week visiting a different animal visitor attraction each day. Included are a day at the following venues: Paignton Zoo, Dartmoor Zoo, National Marine Aquarium, Exmoor Zoo and Otter and Butterfly Sanctuary.	£115
Day Trips	The week will be spent participating in a variety of activities at various venues which will include physical & mental challenges as well as the opportunity to enjoy the South West tourist sites. Included are a day at the following venues: Eden Project, Paignton Zoo, Woodlands, River Dart and Quay West.	£145
Dry Ski Slope Skiing	Spend a week at the Dry Slope in Plymouth learning to ski or improving your existing skills. You will spend 2 hours a day on the slopes with fully qualified instructors and by the end of the week you should be able to complete a full run from the top of the slope! All boots, skis, poles and transport to the centre is included in the cost and you do not need specialist skiing gloves, jackets or trousers. In between your ski lessons and lunch break you will also get to spend time on the other activities available at the centre, brave the Viper drop, race the toboggans, spin out on the snow-tubes and enjoy some healthy competition with the Team Snowboard!	£238
Dry Ski Slope Snowboarding	Spend a week at the Dry Slope in Plymouth learning to snowboard or improving your existing skills. You will spend 2 hours a day on the slopes with fully qualified instructors and by the end of the week you should be able to complete a full run from the top of the slope! All boots, snowboards and transport to the centre is included in the cost and you do not need specialist snowboarding gloves, jackets or trousers. In between your snowboard lessons and lunch break you will also get to have on the other activities available at the centre, brave the Viper drop, race the toboggans, spin out on the snow-tubes and enjoy some healthy competition with Team Ski!	£238

DAILY ACTIVITIES AND TRIPS

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	COST
DT Week	Opportunity to spend the week making in timber, acrylic and fabric. Experience using workshop machinery, hand tools, laser cutter, 3D printer etc. 5 project-based days with a local trip.	£65
Film Week	Join us for Film Week! From classic favourites to modern hits, immerse yourself in the magic of cinema. Enjoy screenings, discussions, and fun activities every day! Bring your friends and discover the art of storytelling through film.	Free
Fishing	Learn how to fish and use equipment. Then use your skills fishing at a local coarse fishing lake. Angling in waters that hold carp that weigh up to 25lb and various other smaller species. This activity would suit either students with fishing experience and own equipment, or complete beginners. Transport each day will be included as well as 4 days with 4 hours a day fishing time. All you will need to bring is yourself, your lunch and some patience.	£80
Football	Enhance your knowledge of football with Plymouth Argyle coaches. There will be the opportunity to play a range of different football games and formats including: street soccer, futsal and mini soccer. The focus will be on game play, theory, officiating and organisation to improve overall performance. The week will be based at school on our 3G pitches.	£90
Jewellery Making	Learn how to make your own copper and sterling silver jewellery, such as rings, charms, bangles and earrings, using traditional jewellery and silversmithing tools and techniques. Each session has a dedicated technique/skill to familiarise yourself with during the day and plenty of variety to keep your imagination running. Throughout the week you will build on these skills and techniques learned in previous sessions. With a maximum of only 10 students, it allows for the opportunity to provide you with plenty of one-to-one guidance.	£100

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DAILY ACTIVITIES AND TRIPS

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	COST
Musical Theatre	Love Musical Theatre? Then spend the week working on songs from your favourite West End and Broadway musicals. During the week you will learn how a musical is put together, from Les Misérables to Mary Poppins, how actors rehearse and learn lines, develop stamina through warm-ups and dance routines and discover how fantastic it can be to create your own musical theatre performance.	Free
Surfing	Spend the week learning to surf or further develop your surfing skills whilst working with qualified instructors. A week of sun, and surf at Discovery Surf School, Bigbury Beach. For complete beginners or improving surfers, the qualified instructors will be there to push your surfing to the next level. Each day is made up of a 2-hour surf lesson followed by beach games and chilling with friends on the beach.	£205
Warhammer Week	Students would either bring their own Warhammer 40K combat patrol and paints or purchase these through the enrichment week programme. We would spend the week building, painting and gaming with those armies. We would have one day in the Warhammer Store in Plymouth City Centre where they would run a range of sessions on hobby skills and how to play the games.	£6 if bringing combat patrol, £102 if you want to get a new combat patrol
Wellbeing	Everyone will take part in a few things not tried before in a supported small group environment. Activities offered include: Origami, Board Games, Puzzles, Books, Painting, Drawing, Creative Writing, Quizzes, Yoga and Colouring.	Free

DAILY ACTIVITIES AND TRIPS

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	COST
Walking and Photography	<p>We will walk each morning and be back to school for around midday to download any photos taken. However, we are sometimes held back with the British weather. Therefore, if we have rain, we will have in school activities and hopefully start our walk a little later.</p> <p>The walks we will be completing, in no particular order will be Oreston Key, Saltram House, Buddle Woods, Radford Lake and Jenny Cliff.</p> <p>In the past, we have finished at the earlier time of 13.00 for the Jenny Cliff walk. The reason for this is because it is one of the longer walks. Many of our students live in Tunchapel and Hooe. Therefore, to make them walk back to the school, only to return back home can be arduous. Consequently, we have allowed those students to simply return home whilst some have been collected.</p> <p>To ensure this runs smoothly, Parents/Carers will be informed as soon as possible during the week which day the group will go to Jennycliff (Normally Friday) and will therefore have the opportunity to make plans. If any student does not have permission to be collected from Jenny Cliff or make their own way home from Jennycliff they will stay in school and have the chance to work on their photo editing.</p> <p>Requirements</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Your child must be able to walk on average 6 miles each day 2. Bring a camera or mobile phone for your photos 3. Bring plenty of sun cream 4. Bring plenty of fluids to drink during your walk 5. On the day, be sure to wear clothing suitable for wet weather 6. On the day, be sure to wear clothing suitable for hot weather 7. Wear sensible walking shoes 8. Bring spare plasters in case of blisters forming 9. Bring a packed lunch as we may not be near a shop 	Free