



Our Ref: JDr JRh

6<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

**Re: Trip - Low Mill Outdoor Activity Visit – June 2025**

This year we have organized an outdoor activities visit to Low Mill Young People's Centre, Askrigg in Wensleydale. This is a residential outdoor pursuit center for young people, and it is very popular amongst a number of schools and students over the years.

During the week of 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> June 2025, we propose to take two groups of students from Year 7/8 to stay at the Low Mill Centre. Each group of students and staff will be away for three days, staying at Low Mill for two nights. Group 1 (2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> June) and Group 2 (4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> June). There will be 36 students in each group if there is sufficient interest.

The activities that the students will be involved in can be wide ranging but we have principally selected from abseiling, archery, caving, orienteering, canoeing and gorge walking. Qualified outdoor pursuits instructors conduct all of the courses with Armthorpe Academy staff in a supporting role. The center was opened in 1976 and has an unblemished safety record.

Each group will arrive in Askrigg at midday and take part in an activity in the afternoon, complete two activities the following day and a further activity on the third morning before returning to Armthorpe in the afternoon. Fully supervised activities are arranged for the evenings involving football, rounders, problem solving and a group walk.

The size of each of the two groups is limited by the accommodation offered at Low Mill and the maximum size of each group cannot exceed 36 students. The organization of Group 1 and Group 2 will be arranged to maximize the use of the accommodation offered however, where possible, friendship groups will be accommodated for.

Other than a packed lunch for the day they travel to Low Mill all other meals are included in the cost. (Please note specialist medical/dietary requirements can be catered for).

**The total cost for travel, meals, accommodation, instruction, activities and insurance will be £285 (this is based on 60 students attending the trip). The cost may increase/decrease slightly dependent on interest.**

Information on equipment needed and travel arrangements will be provided at a Parents' Information Evening arranged nearer to the departure date. However, we would like to point out that no expensive clothing or equipment needs to be purchased. Low Mill provides specialized equipment for activities.

On this visit the students will be involved in physical challenges but we also believe it contributes to their personal development by making them cope with new experiences away from home. Your son or daughter is invited to join us on this visit, and we hope that a large number of students will wish to take part but realize that some children may find physical challenges daunting. We do not want to take with us students who will not participate in the activities.

**You do not have to be an expert at the activities, simply willing to join a group and have a go at all we do.**

We reserve the right to refuse to take with us any student whose behavior in school leads us to believe they may act in an irresponsible, or disobedient way while taking part in the visit, thus endangering themselves, other students, instructors or staff.

The places are primarily offered to Year 7 and 8 students. Should there be more students wishing to go than the accommodation can cater for, year 8 students will be given priority as year 7 will have the opportunity to go next year. Deposits will be returned to unsuccessful students, who do not get a place, should this occur.

If you wish your child to go to Low Mill, a deposit of £50 should be paid via ParentPay, by the end of February 2025. If you are struggling to make the deposit deadline, please contact the school.

Further payments should be made via ParentPay by the following instalments once your place has been confirmed (or payment can be made in full):

Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2025	£75.00
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2025	£75.00
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> April 2025	£85.00

Please be aware that the deposit is non-refundable as well as any subsequent payments once the place is secured unless another student can take the available space.

Yours sincerely



Mr J Dwyer  
(Head of PE / Trip Organizer)

