

King Alfred's Academy Enrichment Brochure 2023-2024

OCTOBER 2023

Enrichment at King Alfred's Academy



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Please read the Extra Information on Pages 9-11 including how to pay and sign up.

King Alfred's Academy is a strong believer in the value of enrichment and learning beyond the classroom. Enrichment is a vital part of our academy ethos.

Participation in our enrichment programme provides fantastic opportunities across a multitude of activities. Whether that's camping in the Peak District, paddling down the Ardèche or climbing Mount Toubkal, embarking on such enrichment opportunities immerses students in cultural experiences which opens their eyes to new environments.

Immersing young people into new environments develops teamwork, communication, resilience, leadership skills and whilst affording the opportunity to establish lifelong memories along the way. The trips which we offer are as diverse as those who undertake them.

This booklet describes the range of trips available at King Alfred's and allows parents and students to understand the trip length, cost and destination as well as how to apply.

We understand that many families like to plan for these enrichment opportunities so we work on a hierarchy of trips, starting with short overnight trips in Year 7 then, as the



students move through the key stages, the activities and residential visits become more challenging according to the length of stay, destinations and level of leadership skills required.

For any further information please contact Jane Smith (DofE & Enrichment Administrator) janesmith@ka.vale-academy.org or Leanne Avis (Head of Enrichment) lavis@ka.vale-academy.org



"King Alfred's Academy's Enrichment Programme offers an excellent opportunity for all students to grow and develop into respectful, responsible, knowledgeable, tolerant, resilient and curious individuals through rewarding, diverse and culturally rich experiences both in the UK and overseas." Ms Avis Head of Enrichment

Inclusion for All



It is important to King Alfred's that trips and visits are available to, and enjoyed by, every single one of our students. The information on this page explains the support King Alfred's provides to ensure every student can experience residential trips and visits during their time here.

Staggered Payments

We launch most of our residential visits in Term 1/2 (except Ski Trips, MFL exchanges and any Departmental trips and day trips). This ensures that payment for trips can be spread over a longer time period. The payments required are minimised to cover the school's deposits payable and other payments to suppliers etc. Deposits must be received by the date on ParentPay to secure a place (ballots will be run if oversubscribed) and the suggested payment schedule adhered to in order to keep your child's place on the trip.

Pupil Premium

For families eligible for the Pupil Premium (those eligible for free school meals or who have been at any time within the past six years, children who are or have been looked after and children from service families), a total sum of £500 is available to be used as part-payment for any trip(s) or to be spent on any single trip during Years 7-10 including Duke of Edinburgh awards.

In the event of non-attendance, our standard trip withdrawal policy applies meaning Pupil Premium funding will be considered used. Please see page 9-10 for details regarding medical withdrawal.

Parent payments for a trip must be received in full before the PP funding element is released. Partial funding will be applied once parental deposit and contribution has been received. Please email Jane Smith (janesmith@ka.vale-academy.org) to express your interest or pay a deposit if the trip is over the £500.

Educational Trust

We understand that at times families can face financial difficulty and challenge. We are fortunate to have the support of the King Alfred's Educational Charity which has a particular interest in supporting children's enrichment through travel. In some circumstances it may be possible to partially help with the cost of a trip, although these funds are increasingly limited.



GLOBAL
FOOTPRINTS
EXPEDITIONS

Year 7 Activities Trip

A four-day residential visit to the beautiful Gradback region of the Peak District. Students will spend 2 nights camping and 1 night in indoor bunk bed accommodation and participate in a variety of activities to include:

- ◆ Rock climbing
- ◆ Abseiling
- ◆ Weaseling
- ◆ Bouldering
- ◆ Watersports on Tittesworth Reservoir
- ◆ Canoeing
- ◆ Raft building

Students will be in teams and rotate activities.

Evening activities may include wide games, volleyball, tug of war and more!

Meals will be taken in an indoor dining hall.



Year Group	7
Date	7th—10th June 2024
Price	£335
Passport	None (UK trip)
No of Places	70

Year 7 & 8 Normandy

Let's go to Normandy!

If you want to discover more about French culture and improve your linguistic skills—this trip is for you!

We'll discover this region, enjoy some typical French food. We will stay in the picturesque French countryside in *La Grande Ferme*, Normandy, surrounded by farm animals where you will experience some fun

activities such as go ape, aero balling, archery, orienteering, a treasure hunt—all in French—and many more!

We will also visit Mont St Michel, a French market, do some French shopping and bring back some souvenirs.

There will be evening activities which will include some French tuition and entertainment.



Year Group	7 and 8
Date	2nd—6th July 2024
Price	£540
Passport	Group
No of Places	50

Year 8 & 9 Alpine Adventure

A eight-day trip to the beautiful Bernese Alps region at Kandersteg, near Interlaken. The group will travel by coach and ferry to our destination. The activities will take place in some of the most spectacular countryside in the Alps.

There will be a range of activities such as:

- ◆ Alpine trekking
- ◆ Rock climbing
- ◆ Alpine luge
- ◆ White water rafting
- ◆ High-ropes course
- ◆ Sledging



GLOBAL
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EXPEDITIONS

"An action packed week where you will get the chance to challenge yourself"



Year Group	8 and 9
Date	18th-25th May 2024
Price	£940
Passport	Group Passport
No of Places	30

Year 9 & 10 Watersports Taster Trip (Isle of Wight)

An exciting residential trip to the Isle of Wight designed to provide an introduction to a variety of watersports, including Dinghy Sailing, Keelboating, Stand up Paddleboarding, Windsurfing and Kayaking and discover which one gives you the biggest buzz. All activities will develop an essential range of soft skills, learn about teamwork, communication and negotiation.

UKSA is one of the largest Watersports Activity Centres in Europe. It is a recognised by the RYA (Royal Yachting Association) and BCU (British Canoe Union) as an activity provider and as a Training Establishment for Instructor and Crew Training.



Year Group	9/10
Date	12th-14th July 2024
Price	£350
Passport	n/a
No of Places	30

Year 9 & 10 Rugby Tour

In the Easter 2024 holiday, Vale Rugby are planning to take a squad of Year 9 and 10 boys to the Portugal Youth Rugby Festival! This is an international festival hosted in Lisbon, featuring teams from across the world.

Rugby in Portugal has taken a big step forward in the last few years, and if you have been watching the Rugby World Cup this year you will have seen the excitement for the Portuguese national team who won their first ever World Cup match!

It is a very exciting time to take a team to the Portugal Youth Rugby Festival. Our tour will fly out on 4th April (Thursday) and return on the 8th April (Monday). The Festival is held on Saturday and Sunday, during which we will have a chance to play against schools and clubs from across the world.

You will also have an opportunity to explore the vibrant city of Lisbon, which is a major centre for sport in Portugal. Included in the tour cost are: KAs tour shirts, rugby match shirts, meals and accommodation.



Year Group	9/10
Date	4th—8th April 2024
Price	£890
Passport	Group passport
No of Places	30

Year 10 Morocco



Trek Mt Toubkal, ride a camel, relax on the beach, and shop in the souks! We head up into the High Atlas Mountains to stay in the village of Imlil, before trekking to the mountain hut below Toubkal. We then trek to the top of the highest mountain in North Africa at 4,167m.

No trip to Morocco would be

complete without riding a camel, which we do through the sand dunes of Essaouira. There will also be time to relax on the beach and visit the harbour and the ramparts of this beautiful walled city.

Finally, you can experience shopping in the colourful Souks where you can practice haggling over your Moroccan gifts and sample a traditional mint tea.

***Magical Morocco
A Real African Adventure***



Year Group	10
Date	27th May—31st May 2024
Price	£1100
Passport	Own passports
No of Places	30

Year 10 Seville

A school trip to Seville for Year 10 students offers an exceptional opportunity for real Spanish language immersion. During their stay, students will be hosted by local Sevillian families and participate in an intensive 12-hour Spanish course. The planned visits are diverse and enriching, including tours of a bull breeding farm, the Royal School of Equestrian Art in Jerez, Osborne wineries, the Roman ruins of Itálica, and the iconic Seville Cathedral, among other historic sites.



We believe this trip will profoundly impact our students, fostering their motivation to excel in Spanish. This, in turn, will likely lead to improved performance in their GCSE exams. The firsthand experiences and cultural exposure will undoubtedly enhance their language skills and cultural awareness.

Year Group	10
Date	31st Jan—5th Feb 2024
Price	£670
Passport	Own passports
No of Places	30



Year 12-13 Tanzania Trip 2024 £3250

An exciting 3-week trip to Tanzania in last week of July into August 24 taking in working with the local community helping to build new facilities for KYGN (Kilimanjaro Young Girls in Need). Next a climb of Mount Meru (4655m) followed by a 2 day safari and finally 4 days on the magical island of Zanzibar. Contact Janesmith@ka.vale-academy.org for more info and to sign up! Dates (tbc depending on flights): provisionally 21st July—10th August)



Year 9-13 Trip to Montpellier

The MFL Department will be running a language trip to Montpellier in October 2023. Students will attend French classes every morning 0900-1200—taught in French—no English allowed! In the afternoon you will get the chance to explore Montpellier, museums, French shopping and food! Flying from Gatwick.

Year Group	Year 9-13
Date	17th—21st October 2023
Price	£790
Passport	Own passport
No of Places	30

Year 8-10 Ski Trip — 2024



This year we are going to the Olympic village (2006) of Bardonecchia during February half term (10th-18th February 2024)
Cost: £1340
This trip will next run in February 2025



Year 11-13 USA Ski Trip—2024

A biennial trip to the USA for skiing! This year we are going to New Hampshire during the February half term (9th-16th February). The cost is £2050.



Please note all the above trips are now full.

Email janessmith@ka.vale-academy.org to check on availability as we do sometimes have vacancies or to be added to a wait list.

Subject Specific Enrichment

Curriculum visits for all year groups will be available throughout the academic year. These will be advertised via ParentPay, e mail and the faculties, including Geography and History field trips. Art masterclasses, foreign exchanges, business visits alongside theatre and museum opportunities, all designed to complement the curriculum offer.

Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme

The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme is a national scheme that King Alfred's offers at all three levels; Bronze, Silver and Gold. The Award starts in Year 9 with Bronze and finishes in Year 13 after the successful completion of the Gold Award. This results in a visit to a royal palace (St James or Buckingham Palace) to celebrate completion of the Award!

To join the award, it doesn't matter who you are or where you're from—you just need to be in Year 9 or above and understand there's more to life than sitting on a sofa watching life pass you by!

To achieve the Award you need to complete a personal programme of activities in four sections – Volunteering, Physical, Skills and Expedition. You'll find yourself helping people or the community, getting fitter, developing skills and going on an expedition. The best bit is - you get to choose what you do! Your programme can be full of activities and projects that get you buzzing, and along the way you'll pick up experiences, friends and talents that will stay with you for the rest of your life. There is plenty of evidence to show that by achieving the Award, future employers and universities will see this as a really positive aspect of your life.

The Volunteering, Physical and Skill sections are for the students to organise themselves and complete in their own time out of school whereas the Expedition section will be led by an AAP (Authorised Activity Provider). As such the dates below are critical and are compulsory if you want to take part. Please do check dates for this academic year carefully before enrolling. More information on each section of the award is available on the Duke of Edinburgh Website – [Do DofE - The Duke of Edinburgh's Award](#)

To join the award, payment should be made via ParentPay (fees listed below) and you will be sent an enrolment form if you have not participated before. This will enable registration on the EDofE website and allow you to begin your journey.

The price for the award, for the year and what it includes is listed below. Price includes: Joining the scheme, licence fees, DofE Administration costs and a welcome pack, insurance, specialist equipment and training for all expeditions. Transport is *not included* in these costs and students will need to arrange their own transport to get to expeditions. A £50 deposit is required to enable registration with DofE and the remainder before expeditions take place.

Bronze—Year 9 - £260

Dates

Training Day: To be held at KA's Centre Site —13th January 2024—all day

Practice Expedition: (2 day/ 1 night) 12th April (6pm) - 13th April (4pm)—Youlbury, Oxfordshire

Assessment Expedition: (2 days/ 1 night) 25th-26th May—White Horse Hill/ Ashbury

Silver—Year 10 - £420

Dates

Training: To be held at KA's Centre Site—21st January 2024— all day

Practice Expedition: (3 days/ 2 nights) - 12th-14th April—Handleton Common HP14 3ES

Assessment expedition: (3 days/ 2 nights) - 21st—23rd June—Dorset (Corfe Castle/ Studland)

Participants do not need to have done Bronze to start Silver—there is just a little longer to be spend on one of the activities. For more info: [Timescales - The Duke of Edinburgh's Award \(dofe.org\)](#).

DofE Gold—Year 12—£525

A two year programme (Year 12/ 13). We will be running all expeditions in 2024 to leave Year 13 free for exams!

Dates:

Training: 1 day to be held at KA's Centre Site —13th January 2024— all day

Practice Expedition 1: (1 day) 9th March—Watlington

Practice Expedition 2: (3 days/ 2 nights) 31st May—2nd June—Brecon Beacons

Assessment Expedition: (5 days/ 4 nights) 5th—9th July —Elan Valley

Transport to expeditions is parental responsibility.

The cost for Bronze, Silver and Gold will not cover the additional equipment needed for the expeditions for example walking boots (compulsory), food and a large rucksack. However, at King Alfred's we have a supply of some essentials which students are welcome to borrow. Should your child withdraw from the course once enrolled no refund will be given (unless for serious medical issues).

Transport to and from expedition is not included. Most expeditions will be fairly local (ie Ridgeway or Henley—tbc) but should we go further afield transport may be able to be arranged at extra cost.

For students in receipt of the Pupil Premium financial support may be available. Please contact Jane Smith (Janesmith@ka.vale-academy.org) for more information.

Expeditions

All our training and expeditions are now run by an AAP (Approved Activity Provider) which is School of Outdoors. For more information on expeditions see [School of Outdoors | An Education Company](#). They provide all necessary equipment (ie tents, cooking equipment, maps etc) but not personal items such as walking boots, rucksacks, food. Please note that as an outside company runs these expeditions King Alfred's staff will not always be present. But we are available to support students with the completion of their Award.

Please note:

Expeditions must be completed in order to gain the DoE award. Should your son/daughter not be able to attend these dates they can do an expedition with an AAP (Authorised Activity Provider) - there are many available—look on [Approved Activity Providers - The Duke of Edinburgh's Award \(dofe.org\)](#). Alternatively, they may join an expedition the following year with the next DoE cohort.

For more information please contact Jane Smith (DofE Administrator) janesmith@ka.vale-academy.org on 01235 225700 x2448 or Leanne Avis (DofE Manager) lavis@ka.vale-academy.org



EXTRA INFORMATION

Trip Information and Procedures

Signing Up and Payments

All trips available for the academic year will appear on ParentPay. To sign up for a trip please make the deposit payment by **18th November**. Payment amounts and dates will be shown in ParentPay. No cash or cheques can be accepted. Having paid the deposit for a trip parents agree to the information and procedures as set out in this booklet

Late Payments

If you do not meet the payment dates reminders will be sent via ParentPay.

For key deposit dates, any late payment runs the risk that the student will not be able to proceed and payments made to date may be forfeited. Full payment must be made by the dates stated.

Updates and further information

All updates will be communicated via ParentPay and each trip will hold an information evening approximately 6-8 weeks before departure date. Where possible the Trip Leader will provide brief updates via our X (formerly Twitter) feed and school website. Parents must be aware that there may be a delay in information during weekend and evenings. On all trips we operate a policy of no news is good news. Our HBEC (Home Based Emergency Contact) will be the first port of call for any information.

Trip Destination Changes

King Alfred's Academy, alongside the travel companies we use, continually monitor world-wide situations and complete risk assessments on the destinations we have chosen, taking into account Government advice at the time, on all residential trips. This will include but is not limited to any Covid issues, terrorist concerns, outbreak of dangerous diseases etc.

If, for any reason, King Alfred's considers a destination not suitable due to global events and advice, we reserve the right to divert the trip to an alternative location. If such circumstances arise, there will be no extra charge made to parents, but equally **no refund will be possible if the student withdraws from the trip at that stage.**

Refunds will be payable if a trip cannot go ahead due to Government restrictions and/ or advice.

Usual withdrawal policy will still apply. (See Withdrawal from a trip)

Withdrawal from a trip

Once a place has been assigned to a student, there is a contract between King Alfred's and the parents that payments will be completed. If a student has a medical condition that means they are not able to attend the trip, a doctor or hospital note will be required and the matter will be dealt with through King Alfred's Academy insurance policy. If a student changes their mind and no longer wants to attend there will be no refund of payments made unless a replacement can be found. Payments made to that date are non-refundable.

Oversubscribed Visits

For trips that are oversubscribed we will hold a 'ballot' on **2nd December**. Those students that do not make the trip will be placed on a waitlist and the deposit will be returned. Students on waiting lists may be offered places right up until time of trip departure so don't be too disheartened if you don't make it – there is always a chance!

Medical issues

If a student has a medical issue that requires daily management (ie diabetic) please declare

Medical issues

If a student has a medical issue that requires daily management (ie diabetes) please declare this when applying for the trip. A case meeting may be required before the student is accepted on the trip to discuss management of any medical issues and to ensure that there is sufficient staffing to support the young person.

Covid

Our insurance will indemnify costs incurred following cancellation of a trip by an individual student/ staff member in the following circumstances:

- If the student/ staff member contracts COVID-19 prior to travel and cannot travel
- For cancellation of the whole party if the lead contracts COVID-19 and cannot travel and a replacement cannot be found
- For cancellation if the student/ staff member is going to be staying with someone who has contracted COVID-19 (school exchange with families).

We can also confirm that if there is a lockdown as imposed by UK Government our insurers will indemnify costs incurred following cancellation if the trip is unable to be deferred by the travel provider.

Data Protection Privacy Notice

Certain personal data of students, including name, address, contact names and numbers, health/ medical and dietary information, will be shared with our staff members involved in the trip and the trip operator on a strictly need to know basis, this is to ensure that all young people can be appropriately safeguarded. We do this as it is necessary for the provision of school trips. Should you have any questions on this please contact Jane Smith on jane-smith@ka.vale-academy.org

Passports and GHICs

Trips abroad will either be on a Group Passport or the student's own individual passport.

Those students travelling on a **group passport** **DO NOT NEED** their own passport.

Parents/guardians of students will need to supply two passport photographs and to fill in a Nationality Questionnaire and Parental Consent Form (CPNQ1 or 2) available from King Alfred's or http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/TravelAndTransport/Passports/Aboutcollectivegrouppassports/DG_174361. We will send out relevant forms and information several months prior to the trip departure date.

Groups passports are *only for British citizens*. Under 18 students from other nationalities or over 18s cannot travel on the group passport and must travel on their own passport. Please ensure you have one in date.

Those students travelling on individual passports are responsible for obtaining their own passport prior to the date of travel and they must be valid for six months after the trip's scheduled return date. Please ensure you have a passport by **31st January 2024** as we will need to share details with our travel companies.

For travel to EU countries students will require a EHIC or GHIC. These are free to apply for from: [Applying for healthcare cover abroad \(GHIC and EHIC\) - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#). If you already have one it will be valid until expiry date.

Mobile Phone Policy

Residential visits are an excellent way to develop life skills and independence in young people. It is partly for this reason that King Alfred's has a policy that students cannot take mobile phones on a residential visit. The policy also ensures that the trip leaders are able to act in 'loco parentis' and ensure the safety and wellbeing of student on the visit. Parents and students are asked to consider this before booking a place. If a place is booked, parents are expected to support the policy, and to enforce it by ensuring mobile phones are left at home.

There are a few exceptions to this rule which will be clearly stated in an information letter. The policy also includes all devices that can connect to Wifi. This includes phones without Sim cards.

Behaviour and Attendance

Visits require students to be able to follow instructions, behave in an appropriate manner at all times and to keep themselves and others safe. The Academy therefore requires students to demonstrate before and during an educational visit, that they can behave in a safe and appropriate manner. If the Academy has any reason for concern, a meeting will be arranged with parents/ carers to discuss viability of attending the trip. Ultimately, if a student is unable to follow the Academy Behaviour Policy, the Academy reserves the right to remove the student from the educational visit. Whilst every effort will be made to back-fill a vacated place, monies will only be refunded if a replacement is found. Any deposit paid will be non-refundable.

Attendance must be good for a student to be allowed to miss any teaching and learning which the trip may impact upon. Therefore, if a student's attendance has dropped to a level that the Academy deems may have an impact on their education (with the exception of medical reasons which would be taken into account) they may not be able to attend. The Trip Leader and Attendance Office will meet with parents/ carers to discuss attendance concerns and if necessary put an agreement in place before attendance on a trip is authorised.

Medical Conditions

If a student has a medical condition that means

they are not able to attend the trip, a doctor or hospital note will be required. The matter will then be referred to our insurance company for a refund. The insurance company's decision is final and the Academy cannot be held responsible for monies not refunded. Students with mental health needs must be 'fit for travel'. For all trips, both the academy and parents must give permission and confirm the student is able to partake in the trip. For trips abroad, a 'fit for travel' note must be obtained via CAMHS both when booking the trip and 7 days prior to departure. Trip Leaders will conduct appropriate risk assessments ahead of travel which may require the input of the students parents/ carers, any such instances will require a meeting before departure of the trip. The headteacher must always ensure the wellbeing of others taking part on a school trip is accounted for and therefore has the right to remove any student if the student's attendance/ behavioural needs will have a detrimental effect on others.

Change of mind

If a student changes their mind and no longer wants to attend a trip they have signed up for, there will be no refund of payments unless a replacement can be found. Any deposit paid is non-refundable. In the case that a PP student withdraws, funding will be considered as used.

VAT Educational Visits Policy

Please note all of our procedures are underpinned by the VAT Educational Visits policy.

For further information on our trips or procedures, please contact Leanne Avis (Head of Enrichment) lavis@ka.vale-academy.org



Students on a Tanzania trip—a fantastic opportunity for Year 12 and 13 students—next running in 2024 (see Page 6)

LIFE
begins
 AT THE END
 OF YOUR
Comfort
 ZONE



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