



21st March 2024

**Kintbury Residential Retreat – May 2024**

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are delighted to confirm that your child has a place on the Y9 Kintbury residential retreat this May. The retreat will be split over two days,

Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> – Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	9A SPA, JKY, FM
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	9L CMJ, SPO, HBR

We are confident they will enjoy the opportunity to step back from the fast pace of school life, and the chance to relax and reflect as they move into what is a very important school year.

The coach will leave school at 2pm and students do not need to wear school uniform on the day they are set to leave. They will attend morning lessons as usual and then leave via coach for Kintbury at 2pm. They will return to school at 6.15 pm the next day.

In order to get the most out of the Kintbury experience we ask students to leave their mobile phones at home and spend 24 hours disconnected from their online lives. Year after year, one of the common messages that students bring back from Kintbury has been to 'live in the now' and this is made far easier by the absence of phones that can distract students from the place and time they are in and indeed the people they are sharing it with. If staff do see phones during the retreat they will be confiscated until we return to school and we would ask you to support us by encouraging students to leave them at home. We will of course be taking lots of photographs of the different activities the students take part in and we will be sharing these via social media throughout the retreat so that you are reassured that all is well and get some idea of what your child is doing. In order to access this please just follow the school Facebook page.

We ask students to bring one small bag each for the 24-hour retreat. Kintbury is an old house in the middle of the countryside and students often like to explore the grounds so we recommend bringing a waterproof coat, warm clothes and shoes that are suitable for this sort of environment. They will also need to bring a towel and toiletries. Bedding is provided. There is a tuck shop in the house so students might like to bring a little money (£3 should be ample) for this. If you have not yet paid the balance for the trip please do so through WisePay by Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April.

We have been taking students to Kintbury for well over 20 years and it is a place that many students form special memories that have a lasting impact on them. We look forward to introducing your child to the Kintbury Experience.

Yours sincerely,

Mr C Farrow, Assistant Headteacher