



RH/ST

08 September 2021

## Year 7 Residential Experience

Dear Parents / Carers

We are delighted to inform you that we have planned an overnight residential experience at Gullivers Valley Theme Park Resort for Year 7. We are very fortunate to have secured a booking as it is an extremely popular venue! We will enjoy exclusive use of the theme park and accommodation at this multi-million-pound resort for our team building residential visits from Monday 27 September to Friday 1 October.

Wales High School would like to invite all pupils in the new Year 7 to spend one day and one night at Gullivers Valley Theme Park Resort. Your child's Tutor and Mr Radford, together with other colleagues, will be personally involved in the process of teambuilding - which is the main purpose of this initiative. It is intended that each group will set off at approximately 2.00pm on the day of departure and return at 2.55pm on the following afternoon. All students will walk to Gullivers from school, and we expect the journey to take no longer than 35 minutes. Dates are as follows:

<b>Monday, 27 September</b>	-	<b>Tuesday, 28 September</b>	-	<b>Tutor Groups 7.4, 7.5 &amp; 7.6</b>
<b>Tuesday, 28 September</b>	-	<b>Wednesday, 29 September</b>	-	<b>Tutor Groups 7.7, 7.8 &amp; 7.9</b>
<b>Wednesday, 29 September</b>	-	<b>Thursday, 30 September</b>	-	<b>Tutor Groups 7.10, 7.11 &amp; 7.12</b>
<b>Thursday, 30 September</b>	-	<b>Friday, 1 October</b>	-	<b>Tutor Groups 7.1, 7.2 &amp; 7.3</b>

Each day, children in the tutor groups who are taking part will arrive at school at the normal time **and in casual clothing**, rather than school uniform. Students will be asked to store their small overnight bag securely and safely in their locker or the designated bag drop off point, until it is required. At 1.50pm (straight after lunch), pupils will undertake a briefing session with their Tutor before the 35 minute walk to Gullivers Valley. We would recommend sending your child to school with a water bottle to take a drink on the journey. The school minibus will take all luggage items to Gullivers and will be waiting for your child when they arrive.

Upon arrival at Gullivers Valley, there will be a site tour and an opportunity for students to settle into their rooms. Students will then be involved in a range of introductory activities and enjoy a full evening meal, followed by time for evening activities and recreation before bed. All pupils will be able to shower - after which we intend to have a good night's sleep. Pupils will sleep in tutor group areas and will be allocated either the Castle, a Western Cabin or one of the Lodges. If you have a sleeping bag it would be beneficial, however, sheets, duvets and pillows can be provided if necessary. The teacher rooms are located alongside the student accommodation. The next morning students will enjoy breakfast before the day's activities start. At approximately 1.50pm on day 2, the group will depart from Gullivers and walk back to school in time for the school bus. Alternatively, if you wish to collect your child from Gullivers, this can be arranged.

All pupils will be involved in a programme of adventure activities, led by a team of qualified instructors. We will also have exclusive access to the park rides and time has been allocated to allow students an opportunity to enjoy the theme park with their new friends!

Continued...

The activity programme has been specifically designed for our group and may include laser quest, climbing, shelter building, fire lighting and of course time in the theme park itself. The activities have been designed to encourage group work and team building to support the formation of a group identity. Participants will receive training and instructions in order to undertake the activities and to minimise the risk involved, as such it is their responsibility to follow any instructions given.

**The cost of this venture will be £35**, including accommodation, meals, insurance and supervised activities at Gullivers. The actual cost of the overall venture is in excess of £80 per child, but as the event is so important for all students, Wales High School is subsidising the cost and, therefore, £35 is the only payment needed for the entire venture. It is our intention that every pupil in Year 7 should participate, so if there is a genuine difficulty relating to this payment, please take the opportunity to speak with me in strict confidence. **This payment of £35 should be paid as soon as possible.** The easiest way to make this payment is online via the school payments system. If you have not already done so, you will need to set up an account on [www.scopay.com/waleshighschool](http://www.scopay.com/waleshighschool) using the access code issued over the summer holidays. Please contact the Finance Office if you need any help with the online payment system [finance@waleshigh.com](mailto:finance@waleshigh.com). If you prefer to pay by cash, then payments should be in an envelope **clearly marked with your child's full name, tutor group and 'Y7 Gullivers Residential'**.

To support your preparations at home, I suggest you include the following items:

- A small overnight bag (rucksack / holdall / small suitcase)
- Sleeping bag (not essential)
- Coat
- Waterproof clothing – for example, a good waterproof coat as we cannot rely on the weather!
- At least one change of clothing
- Comfortable shoes and a change of footwear
- Toiletries and a towel
- Nightwear
- Sun cream and a hat (if we are lucky enough to have good weather!)
- A carrier bag for wet or dirty clothes
- Snacks
- Pocket money (optional) - £3 or £5 will be more than sufficient to purchase a drink, and snacks if required.

I appreciate in this modern age that many Year 7's will struggle to be parted with iPads and PlayStation consoles – I would strongly advise against sending items that could be lost or damaged. We have a packed programme of activities and I would therefore ask that expensive items stay at home ready for your child's return.

We are incredibly excited by this opportunity. The residential will, without doubt, boost confidence, improve relationships and foster teambuilding skills at this crucial stage in your child's transition to Wales High School.

Please fill in the following consent form for your child: [CONSENT FORM](#).

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Yours sincerely



**R Harrison**  
**Head of Lower School**  
[rh@waleshigh.com](mailto:rh@waleshigh.com)