

Welcome to Activity Week 2023

Dear Parent

Following the success of previous years, we are again running an Activity Programme for all students in the last week of the Summer Term 2023 from Monday 17 to Friday 21 July.

The aim of the week is to give our students exciting opportunities and experiences they would not otherwise have. The focus is on shared experiences and our focus this year on “Togetherness” strategic goal. Students will develop teamwork and social skills as well as gain confidence in themselves. Of course, the week is also designed to be enjoyable for all boys, whatever activity they choose, 6 days of fun with friends to celebrate a year of hard work!

This year we have been able to start expanding our off-island activity options including exciting tours of Iceland and France with the Geography and History departments. Our CCF contingent will be looking to return to their MoD visits to the UK and we have an outdoor adventure package in the UK with PGL.

This year, Activity Week is being organised by Mr Akers so if you have any questions, please contact him as soon as possible on k.akers@vcj.sch.je. There are a few points to note:

- The cost of off-island trips is only approximate at this stage and will depend on the final numbers travelling.
- If an activity is oversubscribed a name out of the hat system will be used for those who applied within the deadline.
- In 2022 the majority of pupils did their first-choice activity. However, the numbers meant that some second choices occasionally had to be allocated. This could happen again so please take time to consider your son’s second and third choices.
- There is the option to apply for a package for your son and a friend. Please note that in **MUST** be one entry per student only. Please confer with the other son’s parents, ensure all parties have agreed before entering **ONLY ONE** application. Any student with multiple application in their name will be allocated spaces last due to the difficulties it causes.

Please read the booklet carefully with your son and complete the online registration (information found at the end of this booklet) by Friday 26 November.

Yours sincerely

Dr Gareth Hughes,
Headteacher

Contents

Off-Island trips

1. CCF summer camps
2. PGL Sussex

NB: “History to France” and “Geography to Iceland” trips are being advertised separately. If you are applying for one of these activities please select your activity week choices as well, so that should you not gain a spot with these trips, you still get your preferred activity week choice.

On-Island activities

1. Valley Adventure activity package
2. Learn to Golf
3. Wild Adventures
4. Surfing
5. Le Mourier activity packages
(Junior & Intermediate)
6. Bouley Bay Dive Centre – try-dive and water activities package
7. Absolute Adventures

On-Island school-based activities

8. STEM ‘make it’ activity workshop
9. Supervised self-study
10. Mr Habin’s “Week of Fun”
11. College activities - walks, sites and in-school fun
12. Sports Week

Student absence

Activity Week 2023 form

Off-Island trips

1. CCF Summer Camps

Cost	TBA- Approx. £150-£300
Max number	N/A
Year group	Years 09-13 plus Year 9 shooting team members

All Year 9, Year 10 & Year 12 CCF cadets are expected to participate in a CCF camp for challenge week

Loads of different options available all over the UK and further afield

Meet hundreds of other cadets from other schools

Brilliant value for money £200-£300 for the week

2. PGL Centre UK

Cost	Approx: £740
Max number	36
Year group	7-10

PGL are a well-established and exciting youth project offering amazing experiences to young people. This year we are offering the chance to join Staff and head across to the UK to visit their centre. Boys will be taking part in a week of activities including:

Axe Throwing Abseiling Aero ball All Abroad Swimming Archery Canoeing Challenge courses Climbing Fencing Jacobs ladder Giant swing Orienteering Raft building Rifle shooting Paddleboarding Trapeze work Tunnel trails and zip wiring	Ambush Campfire building Capture the flag Evening disco Sports nights Quizzes and shows
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This exciting package will allow boys to build their levels of teamwork, resilience and most importantly have fun with their peers, cooking, eating and sleeping with their friends on a holiday to remember.

Check out the centre [here](#).

On-Island activities

1. The Valley Adventure “Simply the Best” Activities Week Package

Cost	£328.75
Max number	48
Year group	Years 7-10

The Valley Adventure “Simply the Best” Activities Week Package of Activities includes all our extremely popular Land, Air & Sea Activities with High Ropes, Combat, Survival, Team challenges & Sea based activities. The week will include 3 days at the Centre and 2 days at St. Brelade’s Beach.

2. Learn to golf

Cost	£200 (to be confirmed)
Max number	16
Year group	Years 7-10
Staff in charge	Mr A Royle

Join our staff for a fun filled week of golfing inspired fun. Practise in school with your own set of clubs (provided by school if you haven’t got your own) followed by progressing to driving ranges and academy courses, with the grand finale being a round of golf at Wheatlands with trophies and prizes galore. Coaching from staff and the club pro’s along the way as well as trips to crazy golf as well.

3. Land and sea package with Wild Adventures

Cost	£200
Max number	30
Year group	7-10

An action packed week of adventurous activities from coasteering, rock climbing, paddle-boarding, abseiling, kayaking, boogie boarding, seashore safari, raft building, bushcraft, archery, cycle tour, orienteering and shelter building. There are options this week to leave with Paddle-sport Awards as well as a Certification of completion of adventure activities. This week will make you see the outdoors in a whole new way. Join Kazz in an outdoor experience you will never forget. Transport to and from school included.

4. Surfing with Splash Surf Centre

Cost	£210
Max number	32
Year group	Years 7-10
Staff in charge	Miss V Videt

Four days at the Splash Surf Centre. The cost covers comprehensive insurance, surf tuition, beach safety and surf rescue. Surfboard and wet suit are provided. All abilities catered for. Please note pupils will need money for all food & drink.

5. Le Mourier activity packages

1. Le Mourier Junior Package

Cost £495

Max number 12

Year group 7 & 8

Five days of amazing land and sea adventure activities which should include:

- Powerboat instruction afloat on Le Mourier training RIBs towards RYA Powerboat Level 1 Certificate by RYA accredited instructors.
- Marine engine maintenance instructed by a RYA Engine Instructor.
- First aid instruction by a First Aid instructor.
- Open water snorkelling.
- Pool-based scuba diving introduction.
- Sight-seeing visit to the Ecrehous/Les Minquiers on Le Mourier's charter/training RIBs.
- Sea kayaking.
- Stand up paddleboarding and beach activities.
- Based at Le Mourier's powerboat training facility on the Albert Pier St. Helier.

2. Le Mourier Senior Package

Cost £550

Max number 12

Year group 9 & 10

Six days of land and sea adventure activities which should include:

- Powerboat instruction afloat on Le Mourier RIBs towards RYA Powerboat Level 2 by RYA accredited instructors.
 - PADI Open water diving introduction.
 - Introduction to VHF short range radio operation by a RYA VHF Instructor.
 - Marine engine maintenance instructed by a RYA Engine Instructor.
 - A sight-seeing and snorkelling visit to the Ecrehous/Minquiers on Le Mourier's training/charter RIBS.
 - Sea kayaking, stand up paddleboarding and beach activities.
 - Based at Le Mourier's powerboat training facility on the Albert Pier St. Helier.
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6. Bouley Bay Dive Centre- Try-Dive and water activities package

Cost	£375
Max number	15
Year group	Years 7-10

Come and join the hugely popular team at Bouley Bay for a taste of the underwater world. This course will include activities such as:

- Les Ecrehous boat trips and snorkel
 - Scuba dive introduction
 - Snorkel St. Catherine's with rescue and safety at sea workshop
 - An open water scuba dive taster in the sea or a north coast boat trip
 - Paddle boarding lessons along the beautiful and rugged north coast
 - PADI skin diver course (certificated upon completion)
 - Beach games, pontoon jumping
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7. Sea and beach activity package with Absolute Adventures

Cost	£231
Max number	32
Year group	7-10

We love adventure and what better way to enhance water confidence by signing up to an Absolute Adventure Camp. The Adventure Camp week is focused on getting you to enjoy the outdoors in as many ways as possible. Students participate in activities such as kayaking, coasteering, stand-up paddleboarding, inflatable rides, RIB boat tour and blowkarting. These camps are very popular and a lot of fun. Focus will be on developing a bigger understanding and love for the ocean environment.

On-Island school-based activities

8. STEM 'Make It' activity workshop

Cost	£160+
Max number	14
Year group	Years 7-10
Staff in charge	Mr K Akers and Mr T Smith

Students will have the opportunity to build and race RC kit cars. TAMIYA cars are used in amateur and professional races and these electric kit cars are FAST! The builds are great fun with step-by-step instructions taking you through differential gearboxes to oil suspension units. A real engineering opportunity. Once you've built your vehicle you will be able to visit local sites to race them against one another.

9. Supervised self-study

Cost	Free of charge
Max number	Unlimited
Year group	All year groups

The library and all its resources will be available for the week and your son could elect to spend the week doing additional study.

10. Mr Habin's "Week of fun"

Cost £300 (Approx.)

Max 16

Year group: 10

Join Mr Habin for a week of activities in school and around the island. Beach games, PE games and a range of other activities all led by Mr H and a select team of staff legends.

11. College activities- walks, sights and in school fun

Cost	Free of charge (optional paid-for activities also included)
Max number	Unlimited
Year group	Years 7-10

This year our multi-activity week has been updated to offer students two packages. The college activity package has now got more off-site events as outlined below.

Activity	Cost
Visit to Gorey castle and walk	Free
Visit to Elizabeth castle and walk	
Visit to Groznez and walk	
Traditional board and cards games	Free
Cycle day	£100
Cliff path walks	Free
Zoo trip - spend the day at Durrell with lunch at the Hungry Man café (student to buy own lunch)	Free
Programming day	Free
One day surf experience with El Tico surf school	£40 Tbc
Day of kayaking with Jersey Kayak adventure	£55 TBC
Water sport day - Jet ski/wakeboard and speedboat driving	£55 TBC

Please note: If you choose the multi-activity option you will be asked to complete an additional form allowing you to select the activities you wish to take part in.

12. Sports Week

Cost TBC (approx £150-200)

Max number Unlimited

Year group Years 7-10

This year rather than adding the sporting activities to the college activity pack, boys can select sports week. Run by Jersey Sports and a great value package they can chose from:

Activities include	
Tennis	Badminton
Football	Table tennis
Volleyball	basketball
One day surf experience with El Tico surf school	Ultimate frisbee
Day of kayaking with Jersey Kayak adventure	rounders
Water sport day- Jet ski/wakeboard and speedboat driving	Hockey

Students who are partially available/absent

Activities Week is still part of the official school year, so all boys are required to take part. If your son is not available for the full five days of Activity Week for some reason, permission for absence must be sought from the Headteacher via the Attendance Officer.

Requests for absence must be emailed to the Attendance Officer (attendance@vcj.sch.je) who will then process the request on your behalf and respond to you.

If your son is available for some of Activity Week there are three options:

1. He attends one of the five-day activities (no discount/refund can be given for the lost days)
2. He takes part in the free College Activities programme on the days he is available
3. He attends College when he is available for supervised self-study

Activity Week 2023 Form

This year we are continuing with our new online registration process. The deadline for applications is Friday 26th November. At this point all activities will be awarded on a “name out of the hat” system when they are oversubscribed. We will hope to then contact you with your son’s placement information and payment details prior to the Christmas break.

Please go to the [attached link to complete your son's choices](#).

For students who receive a bursary or are registered as Jersey Premium there is the opportunity to apply for funding support. Please complete the form above with your son’s preference and email any request to the below email.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss any trip further please email k.akers@vcj.sch.je