

Welcome to Activity Week 2024

Dear parent/carer,

It gives me great pleasure to release the information for next year's Activity Week programme for all students in the last week of the Summer Term from **Monday 15 to Friday 19 July 2024**.

The aim of Activity Week is to give our students exciting opportunities and shared experiences they may not otherwise have. Providing an outstanding co-curricular programme is part of our Strategic Plan and we are delighted that this year's programme for Activity Week is the most wide-ranging and exciting for a number of years. 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, to have five days' worth of fun with friends and to celebrate a year of hard work.

This year, Activity Week is being shared in its organisation. The initial phase will be arranged by Mr Townsend up until the Christmas holidays, so if you have any questions, please contact him on j.townsend@vcj.sch.je. We are delighted to welcome back Mr Akers who returns from his sabbatical at the start of the January term and will lead from there onwards. Please contact him from the start of the Spring Term (but not before, please) on k.akers@vcj.sch.je

There are a few points to note:

- The cost of off-Island trips is only an approximate at this stage and will depend on the final numbers travelling. Deposits will be requested well before the Christmas holidays to secure transport costs on most of these trips.
- If an activity is oversubscribed, a 'name out of the hat' system will be used for those who applied within the deadline.
- In 2023 the majority of pupils were able to participate in 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 and make sure it is something he genuinely wants to do.
- Many students will want to ensure they are with certain friendship groups for this week. Please take time to consider your choices and then confirm with others prior to making a final choice. Once we have confirmed deposits many will be non-refundable as we have to secure external providers and in some cases transport needs.

Please read the booklet carefully with your son and complete the final online registration listing your 3 choices (information found at the end of this booklet) by no later than Wednesday **1 November 2023** if you intend to select an off-Island trip. The final deadline for all other on-Island entries will be **Friday 12 January 2024**.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Gareth Hughes
Headteacher

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On-Island activities (Selected by **January 12th 2024**)

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2. Learn to Golf – for beginners and intermediates
3. Wild Adventures – outdoor and coastal activity package
4. Surfing at Splash Surf Centre
5. Le Mourier – water activity package
6. Absolute Adventure – water sports activity package
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On-Island school-based activities

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Off-Island trips

1. CCF Summer Camps

Cost	TBA- Approx. £200-£300
Max number	N/A
Year group	Years 9 & 10 plus Year 9 shooting team members

All Year 9 and 10 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 at approx. £200-£300 for the week.

2. PGL Surrey, UK, Activity Centre (Year 7&8 pupils)

Cost	Approx £650-£750
Max Number	Max 60 pupils
Year Group:	Year 7 & 8 only.

What a way to end Year 7. PGL Surrey boasts 45 acres of grounds packed with activities so everything is just a short walk away. In the grounds there are climbing and abseil towers, four zip wires, three giant swings, two low ropes courses, two challenge courses, three trapezes and an archery range. As well as recently constructed accommodation, dining room and sports hall, there are over 20 activities all situated on-site! The group will fly out on Monday morning and return on Friday evening. Everything from flights, accommodation, food and activities is included in the price.

[PGL Marchants Hill Adventure nr Surrey | PGL Adventures](#)

3. Caribbean Cricket Tour (Year 9 and 10 *Selected Pupils)

Cost: £2000-2500

Max Number: 14-16

Year Group: 9 & 10 selected students

Staff in charge: Mr Lester and Mr Habin

Selected pupils from Year 9 & 10 will be invited to attend a once in a lifetime opportunity to visit the Caribbean to represent Victoria College Cricket team on tour. Letters will go out to selected pupils in the next week inviting them to accept this opportunity. This Activity Week trip is aimed at Cricketers from Year 9 & 10 who intend to represent the college this coming summer and aspire to play for the First XI in the future. Final selection will be based on maximum numbers available once first choices have been made by pupils. This trip is subject to costings and flight availability at this time of year.

4. Berlin History Trip (Year 9 and 10)

Cost: £650-£1000

Max Number: 20-25

Year Group: Year 9 & 10

Staff in charge: Ms Moirin and Ms Plummer

If you love history and you want to see it first-hand then this Activity Week trip is the one for you. Berlin offers some of the most iconic tourist sites in Europe, whilst also presenting tourists with a chilling reminder of both World Wars. The trip will be for 5 days and all flights and accommodation will be factored into the approximated price for this trip. There will be a first come first served basis on sign-ups for this opportunity as we can only take a maximum set of students to meet staff to pupil ratios.

On-Island activities

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

Cost	£350
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-£300 (to be confirmed)
Max number	26
Year group	Years 7-10
Staff in charge	Mr Parkes & Mrs Aikenhead

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 pros 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	Years 7-10

An action-packed week of adventurous activities including coastering, 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.

On-Island activities

4. Surfing with Splash Surf Centre

Cost	£200-250
Max number	32
Year group	Years 7-10
Staff in charge	Miss V Videt and Mr Picot

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 Swim/Sea/Save - Aquatic Activities & Powerboat Week

Cost:	£485
Max number:	30
Year group:	Years 7-9

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 delivered by RYA accredited powerboat instructors. Sight-seeing visit to an offshore location such as Les Ecrehous / Minquiers on Le Mourier's charter/training RIBs. Introduction to marine engines and the use of a VHF Radio - delivered by a RYA Instructor. Witnessing the effects of cold on the human body with one of our RYA/STA First Aid Instructors. Sea Survival Session - Discovering the use of a Life Raft at Sea Open Water Activities - Such as Swim / Run Competitions, sea swimming, snorkelling. Open Water Kayaking Session / Coasteering Session - *subject to external providers staffing.

Activities all subject to provider staffing, weather/sea state and timetabling provision that week and will be based around our Training Facility at Albert Pier and surrounding areas.

On-Island activities

6. Sea and beach activity package with Absolute Adventures

Cost	£230-£250
Max number	32
Year group	Years 7-10

We love adventure and what better way to enhance water confidence by signing up to an Absolute Adventure Camp in St Brelade's Bay. 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, coastering, stand-up paddleboarding, inflatable rides, RIB boat tour and blow-karting. These camps are very popular and a lot of fun. Focus will be on developing a bigger understanding and love for the ocean environment.

7. Junior Lifesaver Programme with the Jersey Surf School, Le Braye

Cost	£300
Numbers	8-20
Year groups	Years 7-10

Learn to train like an RNLI Beach Lifeguard: Paddling junior rescue boards, learning how to perform rescues, CPR training, ocean swimming, Ironman styled training (paddle, run, swim), and surfing when the surf is too good to miss out. Water confidence and swimming ability required.

On-Island school-based activities

8. STEM 'Make It' Activity Workshop

Cost	£100-£180 depending on selected models.
Max number	25
Year group	Years 7-10
Staff in charge	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	20
Year group	7-10
Staff in charge:	Mr Wooldridge

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

On-Island school-based activities

10. 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
A range of on-site activities on the campus	Free
Traditional board and cards games	Free
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 (optional)	£40 Tbc
Day of kayaking with Jersey Kayak adventure (optional)	£55 TBC
Water sport day - Jet ski/wakeboard and speedboat driving (optional)	£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.

On-Island school-based activities

11. Sports Week

Cost	TBC (approx £100-150)
Max number	60
Year group	Years 7-10

Sports Week offers pupils the chance to take part in a wide variety of weeklong sports mostly on campus. Sports Week is run by some of our sportiest staff and is a great value package

Activities include:	
Tennis	Badminton
Football	Table tennis
Volleyball	Basketball
Golf afternoon at Longueville driving range	Ultimate frisbee
Swimming	Softball
Water sport day - St Aubin's (Jet ski/wakeboarding)	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 2024 Form

We have released this information to you now as some activities will require the initial deposit process to begin as soon as possible. This year we are continuing with our online registration process.

The final deadline for **off-island applications is November 1st 2023**. You will be contacted within two weeks with the payment details for the selected activity.

The final deadline for all on-island applications will be **Friday 12th of January 2024**. You will be contacted within 2-3 weeks to make the initial payment for this activity.

Any parents/pupils failing to select any choice at this point will stay on the school site for Activity Week in the College Activities option which comes at no cost.

Please go to the link to make your choices <https://forms.office.com/e/Q32a2HmhBY>

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 College Bursar Carolyn Ferguson C.Ferguson@vcj.sch.je

If you have any questions or would like to discuss any trip further please email j.townsend@vcj.sch.je prior to Christmas holidays and then k.akers@vcj.sch.je thereafter.