

A cluster of yellow stars of various sizes in the top-left and top-right corners of the red background.

**Windsor High
School and Sixth**

Form

Year 7

PLEDGE

WEEK

14 – 18 JULY

2025

A cluster of yellow stars of various sizes in the bottom-left and bottom-right corners of the red background.



The WAT Pledge

**Expanding learning beyond the classroom
and unlocking academic and personal potential.**

We endeavour to stretch, challenge and develop students academically, socially and personally. To enable students to succeed, we pledge to offer and expose our students to 12 opportunities.



Become a first aider



Take part/perform in a musical or sporting event



Raise money for charity



Sleep under the stars



Visit the sea



Take part in a Duke of Edinburgh style expedition



Take part in a residential



Visit a historical landmark



Visit a theatre/museum



Visit a higher education establishment



Present to more than 30 people



Take part in work-based experience



Unlocking Academic and Personal Potential



Dear Parent / Carer

In the last week of the summer term, 14 - 18 July 2025, we are holding our Year 7 Pledge Week. After consultation and feedback from students who participated in previous Pledge Weeks we have planned a varied and exciting week of activities for Year 7 students.

We have considered the students' voice and requests for activities that they would like to participate and engage in and have put together a programme which will allow students to gain new skills, experience new environments and importantly have fun with their peer group in a non-traditional curriculum environment. The aim of this week is to develop personal qualities and characteristics: confidence, leadership, organisation, taking responsibility, co-operation and resilience in a non-traditional classroom setting.

Currently, the activities that have been planned for the students are as follows:

- A day trip to the seaside.
- An opportunity to learn how to play a musical instrument.
- A day participating in outdoor and adventurous activities at Baggeridge Park.
- Learning First Aid including CPR.
- An opportunity to develop presentation skills and present to an audience.
- A trip to the cinema.

There is a cost in running this programme for students, therefore we are requesting a contribution of £85 for students

to participate in Pledge Week. This cost covers all activities and transport to and from external venues. If the cost of the trips cannot be covered by contributions then the programme will not be able to go ahead as planned. A deposit of £40 will be required and we will **contact you separately regarding this**. For now, in order to request a place on Pledge Week, please complete and return the Agreement Form (a link was provided to this form in the letter issued 25 October via Arbor) by **Friday 8 November**. Further details regarding the week will be sent out throughout the year.

Although the activities offered are outside of the normal curriculum, this week is an integral part of the school calendar and there is an expectation that every student will participate and attend regularly. Students who do not participate in the above Pledge Week will be placed on the on-site Windsor Project.

The booklet offers a guide to the process and methods of payment for Pledge Week.

If you have any questions, please do contact us.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C Mortelmans', with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Mr C Mortelmans
Assistant Headteacher

General Overview

Rationale

Windsor High School and Sixth Form, like many other Schools throughout the country, designate the final week of each Academic Year as “Activities Week”, in which all students should take part. In line with school policy, this is a full, educational week and any holiday requested during this time will be an unauthorised absence.

Throughout the planning and delivery of Activities Week parents and students can be assured that Windsor High School and Sixth Form regards the welfare and safety of its students as paramount. To ensure this, some important aspects are detailed below.

Parental Consent

Parental consent forms must be completed for all visits involving students going off-site. It is important to include on this form any relevant up to date medical information and 24 hour emergency contact numbers. We will contact you at a later date to gain consent and the most up to date medical information.

Transport

All minibuses and coaches used during Activities Week will

adhere to recommended guidelines on vehicle proficiency and passenger safety and will be fitted with seatbelts.

Staffing

In school, activities will be staffed by teaching and support staff. Where students are involved in specialised activities, qualified specialists will be employed.

Out of school activities involving non-hazardous activities will be staffed on a ratio of one member of staff for up to twenty students. All mixed gender groups will include at least one male and one female member of staff.

The ratio of staff for 'hazardous' activities is 1:10.

Insurance

Insurance cover for all activities is provided by the School's General Travel Insurance Policy. If parents wish to see further details of this policy please contact the school.

Behaviour

It is essential that students are aware that during Pledge Week, as with the rest of the school year, they represent Windsor High School and Sixth Form, whether on- or off- site. As such, behaviour of the highest standard is expected at all times. Students exhibiting poor behaviour including, but not limited to, failure to adhere to instructions or rules, rudeness to School or other staff or students, will not be tolerated. Such behaviour may result in students being unable to participate in some or all of the activities without refund of payments made.

Process and Payments

Please complete and submit the Agreement Form (link included in the letter issued about Pledge Week) by **Friday 8 November**.

In the event of any unavoidable cancellation of places, after payments have been made, the issue of refunds will be considered by the School on a case by case basis. The decision as to whether or not a full or part refund can be made will depend upon the individual circumstances of the cancellation and the financial commitments involved in each individual trip. Parents and students will appreciate that once the school has confirmed bookings for trips and activities, the school is liable for associated costs. Therefore, it is not possible for the school to absorb the charges that may result due to cancellation. In most instances of cancellation (with the exception of illness, which is medically certified) all payments made are non-refundable.

Payments

In accordance with the arrangements for collection of all monies being paid into school, deposits and subsequent instalments for Pledge Week should be paid online via Arbor. Once your child has been allocated to Pledge Week, you can pay online via Arbor by clicking 'Payment' and viewing your 'Active Payments'. Only if you are unable to pay via Arbor, can payments be made by cash (correct amount only as we are unable to give change), however this will delay the processing of payments. Payments should be handed to

Student Reception in an envelope clearly labelled with your son/daughter's name, tutor group and details of purchase (i.e. Pledge).

Payments due will be payable in accordance with a pre-defined payment schedule issued by the Activity Leader. This will enable you to budget and plan for further payments. **It is essential that this schedule is adhered to.** Failure to adhere to the payment schedule may result in your child's place on the activity being withdrawn without refund. Any student who has their place withdrawn will be placed on The Windsor Project Activity.

Refunds

Every effort is made to ensure the estimated cost of activities is accurate and the school's policy is not to make a profit. There may be occasions when after making all associated activity payments a small surplus remains, if this situation arises, the remaining funds will be retained and contributed to future school activities.

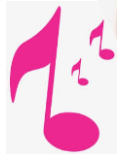
Deposits

A non-refundable deposit of £40 will be payable by **31 January 2025**. We will contact you separately to request this.

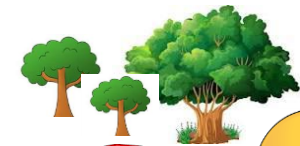
A day trip to the seaside.



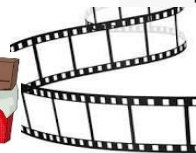
An opportunity to learn to play a musical instrument.



A day participating in outdoor adventurous activities at Baggeridge Park.



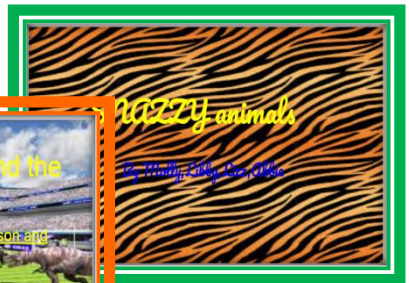
A trip to the cinema.



Learning First Aid, including CPR.



An opportunity to develop presentation skills and present to an audience.




Comments from previous Pledge Weeks



What some of our students said...





**Activities
were fun.**



**The coach
journey was the
best ever...it was
sooooo much fun!**



**I loved the
presentation because
you could choose
your own topic.**



**I liked being given
my Pledge certificate
for completing the
week!**





I loved building sandcastles and Weston was perfect.

First aid taught us life saving tips.



I liked the high ropes because I challenged myself.



It was nice to watch a movie with friends.





Windsor High School and Sixth Form
Richmond Street
Halesowen
West Midlands
B63 4BB

www.windsorhighschool.org.uk

@windsor_tweets