



Hebburn Comprehensive School

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KH/JE

Head Teacher: Mr D R Thompson

17 September 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

We are delighted to inform you that arrangements have been made for a two-day residential visit to **Ford Castle** in Northumberland, delivered in partnership with PGL. The trip will take place from **Monday 16 March to Wednesday 18 March 2026**. Following the huge success of last year's visit, we are thrilled to be able to offer this exciting opportunity to our Year 7 pupils once again.

Ford Castle, steeped in history, provides a truly unique backdrop where pupils can take part in a wide range of adventure activities, including archery, zip wire, abseiling, orienteering, and much more.

This opportunity is open to all Year 7 pupils. Please note, however, that spaces are limited to 110 places. Once these have been filled, we will operate a waiting list and notify parents/carers accordingly.

The total cost of the residential is **£130.00**, which covers return coach travel, full board accommodation, and a varied programme of activities. To secure a place, a **non-refundable deposit of £40.00** must be paid by **Friday 26 September 2025** via parent pay. The remaining balance can then be paid in three instalments of **£30.00** each, due by **1st November 2025**, **1st December 2025**, and **1st February 2026**.

As with all enrichment opportunities, participation is dependent on pupils meeting our school's high expectations of conduct. Eligibility criteria are as follows:

- Attendance of at least 95% (with consideration given to medical circumstances supported by evidence).
- Good punctuality to school and lessons (no more than 15 late marks).
- A positive behaviour record, showing more merits than sanctions and a low number of negative points.
- No repeat BSR placements and no suspensions.
- No incidents of bullying or repeated unkindness towards others.

Further information will be provided once places have been confirmed. In the meantime, parents and carers who would like to learn more about the venue can visit Ford Castle PGL's website.

We are confident this trip will provide pupils with a truly memorable experience—one that not only develops confidence and resilience but also strengthens friendships and creates lasting memories of their Year 7 journey.

Yours sincerely,

K Hardy

Mrs K Hardy
Assistant Headteacher

J Shield

Miss J Shield
Head of Learning