



RIDGEWOOD
HIGH SCHOOL

12th October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Year 9 Challenge Day

At Ridgewood, we know how important academic study is when it comes to experiencing success at school. However, we are also aware that school is about far more than this; we want our students to be able to work independently, or as part of a team, and to develop skills of resilience, so they know how to respond to situations that might be unfamiliar to them.

To support this, Year 9 students will have a Challenge Day on **Friday 20th October 2023**. Students will take part in an entire day of teambuilding activities, that focus on leadership, collaboration, problem solving and of course having some fun with friends.

On the day of the event

The day will begin at our usual time of 8.40 am with students being registered in their tutor rooms. The start of the day will involve map reading skills, and the students being shown how to navigate around the 6km circular route, which starts and ends at school. En route the children will stop at five checkpoints, where they will be met by an instructor and offered a challenge to complete. These will range from being able to pitch a tent to leading a partner through the 'night line'.

Students do not need to wear their uniform on Friday 20th October 2023. They should wear sensible, practical clothing as, they will be outside for the day. Students can wear their PE kit or if they have walking trousers, walking shoes etc these would also be appropriate. Please keep in mind how variable the weather can be. Students need to have warm layers that they can take off and carry, as well as some form of waterproof jacket. The terrain will be mostly fields and track, so it is likely that it will be wet underfoot in some areas.

Students should bring their school bag or something similar to enable them to carry their lunch and drinks, as well as any layers they may wish to have in case the weather changes. All students will need to bring a packed lunch and a fillable bottle for the day. Packed lunches will be made available for those students who are entitled to free school meals.

ParentPay and consent

This event is free of charge, however there will be a consent form on ParentPay that will need to be completed in full by **Thursday 19th October 2023**, to enable your child to take part in this event. It is very important that **all** the information requested on the ParentPay questionnaire is completed, including emergency contact details, necessary medical information and **full** doctors phone number.



You have previously received your ParentPay login details but if you have forgotten or mislaid these, you will need to go the ParentPay website (www.parentpay.com) and click “forgotten password”. You will then be emailed a link to reset your account. Unfortunately, we are unable to do this in school. The following ParentPay link will answer any questions you may have with regard to your online account and making a payment.

Link: <https://www.parentpay.com/parent-account-faqs/>

We reserve the right to withdraw any student from a visit or residential activity if, in the time leading up to it they:

- are excluded or suspended from school for any reason
- repeatedly refuse to cooperate or follow the instructions of staff and fail to respond positively to appropriate warnings

Ridgewood students are always an absolute delight to take on any school trips and visits and we expect that this event will continue this tradition.

Yours faithfully,



Miss R Billingham
Head of Year 9
Ridgewood High School