

Friday 20 March 2026

kmg/pmt/SPP/BristolZoo/2026

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Service Family Students Trip to the Bristol Zoo Project – Monday 13 July 2026**

We are organising a trip to the Bristol Zoo Project for our service family students and your son/daughter is invited to participate. The aim of this trip is to allow service family students to meet each other outside of their normal peer groups and share similar experiences, therefore helping to reduce the isolation sometimes felt by service family students. Mrs Griffiths (married to a serving soldier) and Mr Hall (former Royal Artillery) will be two of the adults accompanying the students on the trip.

Travel to Bristol will be by coach. The trip leaves from St John's at **08.45hrs** on **Monday 13 July 2026** (**please can students meet in the Atrium at 08.30hrs**). The trip will return to St John's at approx. **17.30hrs**. **Parents will need to make their own travel arrangement for students to and from St John's at these times.**

Students will need to wear their St John's PE kit top but can wear jeans or shorts etc. Please ensure that your child is dressed for the weather conditions on the day i.e. waterproofs or hat and sun cream etc.

Students may bring either a packed lunch or a debit card which they can use to purchase lunch at one of the food outlets at the Zoo. **Any students in receipt of free school meals will be provided with a St John's packed lunch.** You may wish to provide your child with 'pocket money' and up to £20.00 is thought to be sufficient for the trip.

In order that the trip may take place, it is necessary to ask for a voluntary contribution of **£16.50** and this should be paid by **15.00hrs Monday 4 May 2026** at the latest. There is no obligation to contribute, and no student will be omitted from the trip if their parents do not contribute. It is true, however, that the trip will not take place if sufficient voluntary contributions are not forthcoming. **The trip cost has been subsidized, with 50% of the overall trip cost being covered by the St John's.**

*In case of financial hardship, support may be available from the St John's Opportunity Fund for Yrs. 7 to 11, to request support please email [NFillingham@stjohns.excalibur.org.uk](mailto:NFillingham@stjohns.excalibur.org.uk) Please note that the level of financial support provided will be dependent on your household income and evidence of your household income will be requested. For Yr. 12 & 13 students, Bursary Fund grants should be used towards the cost of this trip. To qualify for Bursary funding, attendance needs to be 95% or above and awards are dependent upon household income levels. If your son/daughter has not already applied, an application form can be obtained from the school.*

**Payment should be made online through ParentPay; by making a trip payment you are giving your permission for your son/daughter to attend.** If you have mislaid your log in details, please contact Mr Nathan Fillingham at [NFillingham@stjohns.excalibur.org.uk](mailto:NFillingham@stjohns.excalibur.org.uk)

***Please be advised that by signing your child up to a school trip you are entering into a financial agreement with St John's to pay the full cost of the trip by the due date advised. Once places have been confirmed trip payments will be non-returnable unless the school cancels the trip.***

***Please note that should parental request withdraw a student unless for a substantiated medical reason, parents will be liable for the full cost of the trip. All such withdrawals should be discussed, in the first instance, with Mrs Pauline Marshall-Thomas via [trips@stjohns.excalibur.org.uk](mailto:trips@stjohns.excalibur.org.uk) or DD 01672 518896.***

**It is imperative that the students who we take on the trip are responsible and can follow instructions. We cannot take students who have had any exclusions this academic year or a substantial amount of negative behaviour points.**

The organisation of all trips includes a comprehensive risk assessment. The Principal and Trip Organiser may choose to exclude from the trip any students whose behaviour or schoolwork is not satisfactory. *Any student withdrawn by St John's for these reasons will be at the expense of the parents. It is not possible to guarantee any refund of monies already committed by St John's and indeed expenses not already covered may be claimed from you.*

Please be aware that the medical information and contact details for your son/daughter that you have supplied for St John's records are printed and taken on the trip by the trip leader and their deputy in case an emergency arises. They are also supplied to the member of the Senior Leadership Team that is point of contact for the trip. The printouts are destroyed once the trip is over. By applying for a place on the trip, you are giving your consent for this information to be used for this purpose.

**If your child is either asthmatic or has anaphylaxis, they must ensure that they always carry their inhaler or EpiPen on them during the trip.**

Please be aware that in the case of an insurance claim for lost/stolen/damaged personal effects this will be paid less any relevant policy excess.

**Payment and permission need to be received by 15.00hrs Monday 4 May 2026 at the latest.**

Yours faithfully

**Mrs K. Griffiths  
Service Pupils Champion**