

ENRICHMENT

Students have enjoyed their usual richness of extra-curricular activities, including:

Highlights – September-October 2021	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elevate Education – Year 7 & Year 12 • British Science Festival – Year 12 • Year 12 Meet the Tutor Evening • Year 8 Meet the Tutor Evening • Fresher's Fayre – Year 12 • House Football – All Years • Mid-Essex U13 Cricket Finals • New Parents' Welcome Evening – Year 7 • Splendid Workshops – Drama • Jack Petchey Speak Out • KS4 Information Evening • Black History Month • House Balloon Tennis • Year 8 & Primary School STEM Enrichment Day • House Obstacle • PA School Disco – Year 7 • Restart the Heart • Year 13 Theatre Studies Showcase Evening • Leadership Conference – Year 11 	

Educational Visits 2021-22				
20 Sep 21	11	Snowdonia Geography Residential	YHA Pen y Pas	4 days
29 Sep 21	9	Cyber First Celebratory Event	Maclaren Technology Centre	1 day
29 Sep 21	13	Geography Field Trip	Walton on the Naze	1 day
30 Sep- 21	13	Geography Field Trip	Margate	1 day
04 Oct-21	13	Geography Field Trip	Walberswick	1 day
05 Oct 21	13	Geography Trip	Stratford	1 day
20 Oct 21	10	Geography Trip	Epping Forest	1 day

Enrichment Days Update 2021/22
<p>For some time, we have been looking at revising our existing Enrichment Day model in order to balance high quality experiences for our students, and our increased roll. The success of our growing school does at times require us to reflect on whether our current provision is realistic, workable, and importantly, sustainable for future years.</p> <p>If the established Enrichment Day provision were to continue, we would find ourselves with 5 dedicated Enrichment Days across the school where all year groups were off timetables at the same time for the duration of 6 hours. With 7 large year groups inevitably, the result would mean constraints upon human, physical and financial resources.</p>

The first change we have made, therefore, is to make the move from whole school ED's to year group ED's

For obvious reasons, revision to Enrichment Days was put on hold, as much of our enrichment and extra-curricular activities were suspended, but it was already becoming increasingly apparent to us during the academic year 2019 that certain venues were unable to take our entire cohort of 180 at the same time. We therefore needed to split year group so that they could attend on separate days, which meant that enrichment was already starting to sit outside of the 5 designated days.

For this reason, the second change we have made is to remove the 5 dedicated Enrichment Days.

A large part of enrichment is that it provides an opportunity for students to take what they have learnt in the classroom and build upon it. For this reason, the flexibility to go on a trip or organise a visiting speaker at a time that suits the curriculum is paramount.

This is another reason why the removal of 5 fixed days is a positive one.

There are many benefits to concentrating on year group Enrichment Days, but primarily it is the scope that it gives us to focus on the needs of each of the key stages. During an assembly to students during the week commencing 20th September 2021, recognition of these specific needs was outlined:

We recognise that our KS3 students appreciate new experiences and an opportunity to work with students from the local community, whereas our KS4 & KS5 students place increased value upon learning time and enrichment that enables them to put theoretical curriculum learning into practice.

As part of our Fair Access Plan (FAPP) our work with primary school students through our Enrichment Day programme is an essential part of the familiarisation and promotional process. By singling out Enrichment Days for our primary students we give it the status and profile that it needs

This year, our calendar is looking full, and our hopes are high as we look optimistically to giving students back the aspect of their education that was perhaps impacted more than any other, that of enrichment.