



Mearns Academy

Activity Days

29th – 31st May 2024



Dear Parent/Carer,

Activities Days will take place on Wednesday 29th, Thursday 30th and Friday 31st May 2024 for all S1 – S3 pupils. This booklet contains a selection of non-residential activities as well as larger scale residential activities.

Staff have devoted a large amount of time and effort to ensure that the activities contained in this booklet offer the best value for money for your child and that they have the best experience.

These activity days provide your child with opportunities to:

- Engage in activities outwith the normal classroom situation.
- Try something new.
- Make new friends with pupils from other year groups.
- Contribute to a positive whole school ethos.

Some activities are more expensive than others. Thus, it is anticipated that choices can be made as soon as possible in order to spread any payments necessary and keep them to a minimum. All prices included are subject to change and are to give an indication of the price of each activity at this stage. Once we know the number of pupils that are interested in each activity we will be able to confirm the exact price. A deposit payment for residential trips will be required shortly. Trip leaders will be touch as soon as places are confirmed.

I am now asking you to study the booklet carefully and make choices by completing the online form which will be sent via Groupcall and will also be available on the front page of the website. Some activities have a higher demand than others. If your young person is allocated a place for a particular activity, further information regarding emergency contact details, consent forms, itinerary etc will be issued promptly by activity leaders.

Any pupil who does not choose an activity will be expected to attend school. A programme of in-school activities will be organised and supervised by staff.

Please note, the deadline for applications is 5th October. Should you have any further questions regarding Activities Days please do not hesitate to contact myself at Mearns Academy.

Yours faithfully,

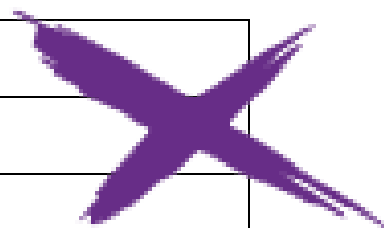
Mr D Atkinson
Cluster Business Manager

Activities Available

Ryze	Wed	Not available	Not available
Golf	Wed	Not available	Not available
Cruden Bay	Wed	Not available	Not available
Wild Shore	Not available	Thur	Not available
Breakout Games	Not available	Thur	Not available
Glasgow Science Museum	Not available	Thur	Not available
Blair Drummond	Not available	Thur	Not available
Lochter	Wed	Not available	Fri
Baking	Wed	Not available	Fri
Codonas	Not available	Not available	Fri
Manga Expedition	Not available	Not available	Fri
Footgolf	Not available	Not available	Fri
Sewing	Not available	Thur	Fri
Cycling	Wed	Thur	Fri
Clay Pottery	Wed	Thur	Fri
Cinema	Wed	Not available	Fri
In School Activities	Wed	Thur	Fri
Woodworking	3-day activity only		
Gaming +	3-day activity only		
Shetland	Residential		
London	Residential		
Alton Towers	Residential		
Mediterranean adventure	Residential		

Activities available

Activity	Ryze		
Trip Leader	Mrs Craig		
Staff	+3		
Approx. Cost	£25 tbc		
Places available	40		
Activity	RYZE Dundee has loads of oversized trampolines, a giant stuntman airbag, ninja obstacle course, obstacle pits, an inflatable with slides, obstacles and more! Includes travel by coach. Packed lunch required.		
Day/s available	Wed	Not available	Not available



Activity	Golf		
Trip Leader	Mr Christie		
Staff	Ms Cooper		
Approx. Cost	£20 tbc		
Places available	10		
Activity	Golf at a local course. This activity is only suitable for young people who already have experience of a full course and can supply their own golf clubs.		
Day/s available	Wed	Not available	Not available



Activity	Fangs for the Memories: a guided walk around Bram Stoker's Cruden Bay		
Trip Leader	Mrs Dakers		
Staff	+1		
Approx. Cost	£30 tbc		
Places available	12		
Activity	<p>Fangs for the memories: a guided walk around Bram Stoker's Cruden Bay.</p> <p>With our expert guide, we'll explore Cruden Bay's little known connection to Bram Stoker, author of the iconic novel, Dracula. Stoker stayed in the area many times - we might even be able to see his actual signature in the hotel register at the Kilmarnock Arms! - and was said to have written parts of Dracula while he was here. Stoker was reportedly inspired by Slains Castle, so starting from Port Errol we'll walk to this atmospheric castle ruin perched on the cliff edge, and under the supervision of Formartine area ranger David Brown, we'll get to explore inside the walls, towers and up the stone staircases. Alongside Stoker facts and anecdotes, David will tell us stories of the history of the castle including its earlier role in Jacobite rebellions and even a connection with King Canute, 11th century king of England, Denmark and Norway.</p> <p>Travel will be return by coach from Mearns Academy leaving at 9am and returning for the end of the school day at 3.30pm. You'll need to be able to walk around 3 miles over varied terrain, have suitable footwear and clothing for walking (including waterproof kit), and bring a packed lunch.</p>		
Day/s available	Wednesday	Not available	Not available



Activity	Wild Shore		
Trip Leader	Mr McCue		
Staff	+3		
Approx. Cost	£40 tbc		
Places available	40		
Activity	<p>Trip includes coach travel to Dundee.</p> <p>Activity includes all kit hire. Take part in the Aqua Park which is a huge inflatable obstacle course; then the Ringo which is a big ring that pulls 3 or 4 participants up and down the City Quay at once; Jumbo Paddle Boards can each take 10 people on them and are great for team building while learning a new skill.</p>		
Day/s available	Not available	Thursday	Not available



Activity	Breakout Games		
Trip Leader	Mrs Birse		
Staff	+ 2		
Approx. Cost	£35 tbc		
Places available	24		
Activity	<p>Take part in different escape rooms at Breakout in Aberdeen. Cost includes pizza and a drink. This activity will not return in time for school transport.</p> <p>Escape rooms – “a simple concept which is proven to bring teams together drawing on their ability to solve problems, think creatively and communicate effectively.”</p>		
Day/s Available	Not available	Thursday	Not available

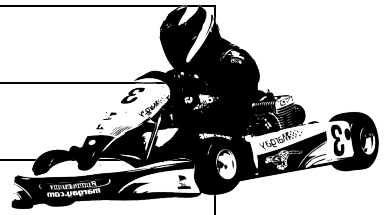


Activity	Glasgow Science Museum		
Trip Leader	Mr Duncan		
Staff	+ 2		
Approx. Cost	£45 tbc		
Places available	30		
Activity	<p>Travel down by coach to the Science Centre where we will have a session to explore the exhibits including hands on activities, a talk in the world class planetarium, time for lunch and then an afternoon session back to explore the exhibits.</p> <p>This activity will not return in time for school transport.</p>		
Day/s available	Not available	Thursday	Not available

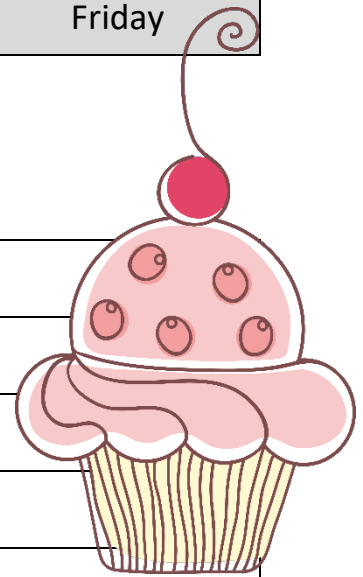
Activity	Blair Drummond Safari Park		
Trip Leader	Mrs Nicoll		
Staff	+ 3		
Approx. Cost	£35 tbc		
Places available	40		
Activity	<p>Take a coach trip down to Stirling and visit the Safari Park. Blair Drummond has a variety of animals including rhino's, monkeys, giraffes and many more.</p> <p>This activity will not return in time for school transport.</p>		
Day/s available	Not available	Thursday	Not available



Activity	Lochter Activity Centre		
Trip Leader	Mrs MacKenzie		
Staff	+ 3		
Cost	£60 tbc		
Places available	40		
Activity	<p>Coach trip to Lochter activity Centre nr Oldmeldrum.</p> <p>Take part in different activities during the day including Karting. Other activities will include 2 or 3 of the following: climbing wall with zip wire, segway, archery, 4x4 blindfold driving, water zorbing.</p>		
Day/s available	Wednesday	Not available	Friday



Activity	Baking		
Trip Leader	Mrs Howe, Mrs Herd		
Staff	+ 2		
Approx. Cost	free		
Places available	20		
Activity	<p>Spend the day in Home Economics and cook some home bakes under supervision.</p> <p>Recipes to be decided – may or may not include chocolate!</p>		
Day/s available	Wednesday	Not available	Friday



Activity	Codona's		
Trip Leader	Ms Sutherland		
Staff	+ 3		
Approx. Cost	£25 tbc		
Places available	36		
Activity	Travel by coach to Codonas in Aberdeen. There will be a selection of options from bowling, dodgems, adventure golf, race/mission on the go karts or laser tag. Price includes pizza.		
Day/s available	Not available	Not available	Friday

Activity	Manga Expedition		
Trip Leader	Mrs Dakers		
Staff	+ 1		
Approx. Cost	£10		
Places available	12		
Activity	<p>Manga Buying Expedition and Geek Out at Geek Retreat</p> <p>Brief Description: Visit Geek Retreat Aberdeen to help select some new manga books for the school's library and have a general geek out. You'll need to think about important things to consider when buying manga for the school library rather than for your own collection. There might be the chance to make some sneaky pocket money purchases.</p> <p>Transport: return train from Laurencekirk to Aberdeen</p> <p>Packed lunch required</p>		
Day/s available	Not available	Not available	Friday

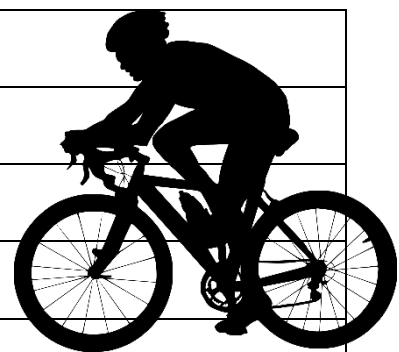
Activity	Footgolf		
Trip Leader	Mr Christie		
Staff	+1		
Approx. Cost	£10		
Places available	12		
Activity	Footgolf and lunch at Brechin Golf Club		
Day/s available	Not available	Not available	Friday



Activity	Sewing		
Trip Leader	Mrs Donald		
Staff	+ 1		
Approx. Cost	free		
Places available	4		
Activity	Make a pair of lounge/pyjama shorts/trousers.		
Day/s available	Not available	Thursday	Friday



Activity	Cycling		
Trip Leader	Mr Milne		
Staff	+1		
Approx. Cost	Free		
Places available	8		
Activity	<p>A day out cycling a local route which will suit a Mountain or hybrid bike. Route will be confirmed nearer activity days.</p> <p>Own bike is preferred but a limited amount of bikes may be available if required.</p>		
Day/s available	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday



Activity	Pottery Workshop		
Trip Leader	Mrs Watt		
Staff	+1		
Approx. Cost	£35 tbc		
Places available	8		
Activity	Pottery workshop at the Clay Half in Montrose. Learn the basics of hand-building pots in a real pottery studio.		
Day/s available	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday

Activity	Cinema		
Trip Leader	Mrs Lawson		
Staff	+ 2		
Approx. Cost	£15 tbc		
Places available	25		
Activity	Take a train to Montrose, see a movie – with snacks!		
Day/s available	Wednesday	Not available	Friday



Activity	In School Activities		
Cost	Free		
Activity	In school activities which may include sports options, crafts or movies		
Day/s available	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday

3 day activities only

Activity	Woodworking Workshop
Trip Leader	Mr Milne
Approx. Cost	£20
Places available	10
Activity	Design and build your own piece of furniture. Held in workshops in school.
Days	3-day activity only

Activity	Gaming Activities
Trip Leader	tbc
Cost	Free
Places available	20
Activity	VIDEO GAMES Three days of various video game related activities, both playing and creating.
Day/s available	3-day activity only

The following activities are residential –
please check individual trips for
departure/return days

- Shetland
- London
- Alton Towers
- Spain

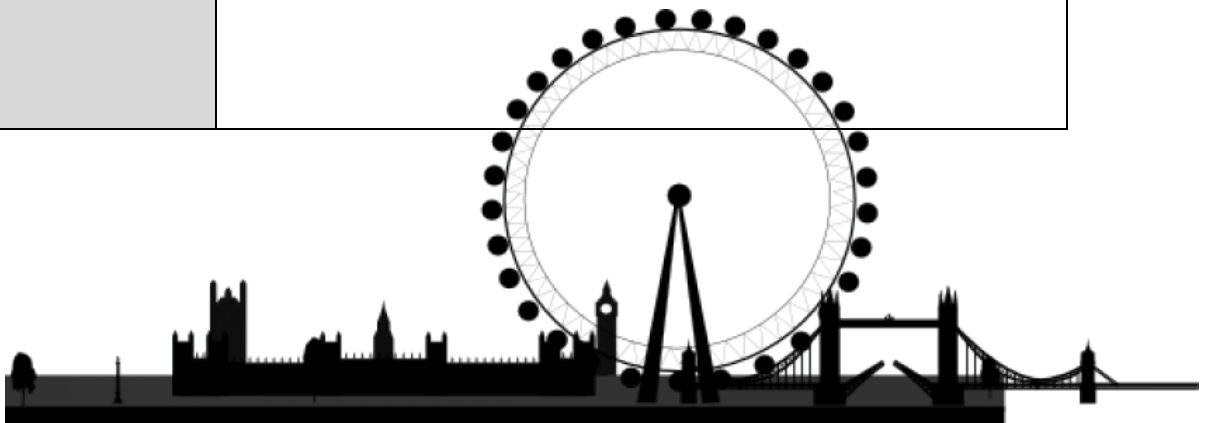
Residential

Activity	Shetland
Trip Leader	Mr Jappy
Staff	Mrs Monachello, Mrs Coull
Approx. Cost	£450 tbc
Days	Tues 28 th – Sat 1 st
Places available	20
Activity	<p>Travel to Shetland on Tuesday evening, arriving Wednesday morning in Lerwick. Explore important historical, cultural and environmental sites throughout the islands.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sumburgh head to view the puffins and an Iron Age village • Mousa Isle to view seals, shipwrecks and Bonxies • Hermaness to view the most northerly point in the UK - Muckle Flugga. • Catch a glimpse of a pod of Orcas or dolphins • Miles and miles of unspoiled sandy beaches • Walk on ayre • Free time and shopping in Lerwick <p>Estimated cost £450. All travel, meals, entrance fees, trip hoodie and accommodation costs included. Meals aboard the ferry to and from Shetland are not included.</p>



Residential

Activity	London
Trip Leader	Mrs Baker
Staff	Mrs Howe, Mr Cameron + 1
Approx. Cost	£490 tbc
Days	Wed-Fri
Places available	40
Activity	<p>Cost includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Return travel by coach• 2 nights B&B accommodation• evening meals at Pizza Hut and 2-course meal at Hard Rock Café• Theatre show• River cruise on the Thames• Trip on the London Eye• Entry to Madame Tussauds & Marvel Universe 4D• London Dungeons



Residential

Activity	Alton Towers
Trip Leader	Mrs Logue
Staff	+ 3
Approx. Cost	£120 tbc
Days	Wed 29 th *
Places available	40
Activity	<p>Cost includes travel by coach and a full day in the Alton Towers theme park.</p> <p>* This trip will depart approx. 12 am midnight on the Tuesday evening to arrive in Alton Towers for a day at the theme park, returning to Laurencekirk early hours of the Thursday 30th. Therefore pupils must be able to make their own way to the school and be collected on their return.</p>



Residential

Activity	Mediterranean Adventure, Spain
Trip Leader	Mrs Jamieson
Staff	+ 3
Approx. Cost	£850 tbc
Days	25 th – 2 nd June
Places available	36
Activity	<p>Located in the popular Costa Brava, this exciting Mediterranean Adventure is packed full of beach water sports from big SUPs to kayaking. You'll also enjoy a fun-filled day at the local waterpark and soak up some Spanish culture in Barcelona.</p> <p>Accommodation is in the Cala Llevado complex which features a large swimming pool.</p> <p>Cost includes travel by coach - departing 25th and returning 2nd June.</p> <p>Accommodation included – 6 nights.</p> <p>A non-refundable deposit will be required.</p>

