



April 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 6 Summer School Monday 19 – Thursday 22 August 2024

We are very excited to be able to offer Year 6 students the opportunity to join us at Samuel Ward Academy for our Summer School. Experience has taught us that this time is a really valuable opportunity for your child to get ahead before starting Samuel Ward Academy in September and as such we are encouraging all who book to attend all days, which this year will be Monday to Thursday. We found that a number of students did not attend Friday last year as it fell on a bank holiday weekend as is so this year. Due to the financial constraints forced upon us by the rising costs of all resources we will only be able to accept 104 students.

Activities

Students will enjoy a range of activities which will be fun and engaging, for example photography, creating and recording music, baking, papercraft and others. Wednesday is the annual trip to London where we will be visiting the Natural History Museum. Thursday will be an activity day and will involve archery, geocaching, climbing walls, bushcraft and at the end of the day a well-deserved ice cream.

Timings of the school day

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday: 9am start 3pm finish. We will have a morning break at 10.15 and lunch will be 12.30-1pm.

Annual London Trip

The trip to London this year will be on Wednesday 21 August and is only offered to students who have pre-booked a place on the summer school form. Unfortunately, due to rising costs we are asking £10 per student for the trip to help with the cost of the coach, this will need to be paid in cash when your child attends transition week.

This will be an earlier start and finish. 7:30am, Finish 5:30pm

We will be sending a separate trip letter in due course.

What to wear

Students should wear clothing and footwear suitable for both the weather and some physical activity. If it is very hot and sunny, we recommend students bring a hat.

Food

Students will need to bring a packed lunch, snacks and a drink for each day.

What to bring

Students should bring a pen and pencil, a refillable water bottle and sun cream and hat if it is hot.

Student groups

Students will enjoy a range of activities in different groups. These will be different to both their tutor group and academic class and provide a great opportunity to get to know new people. Our staff are very experienced in managing introductions and ensuring all students feel included.

Staffing

All staff involved with Summer School either work at Samuel Ward Academy or with Outdoor Explore which is a subsidiary of Abbeycroft Leisure. The week offers students a great opportunity to get to know some of the people who will be teaching them in September. The Summer School team is highly experienced, and students will be well supported throughout.

We are all looking forward to a really enjoyable and productive week. There is no charge for Summer School apart from the London trip, however as you will appreciate there is a cost, we therefore ask parents to consider this when booking student places as these are limited. If booked, please do ensure your child attends as it would be a shame to waste a place that another child could have enjoyed.

If you would like to book a place, please use the link <https://forms.office.com/e/fm5M1y3rVD> to complete the form. The link for the form will go live at **6pm on Monday 13 May** and close at 6pm on Friday 17 May. The first 104 will be allocated a place and any other applications will be added to a waiting list. We will notify you by Friday 24 May if your child has a place.

Kind regards

Wendy Jeffery
Summer School Coordinator