

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of purple and blue, creating a modern, layered effect. The shapes are primarily triangular and polygonal, with some areas appearing more translucent than others.

Year 5 Welcome Meeting

Year 5 Staff

Teachers

Teal - Mrs Playle (Monday to Wednesday) and Mrs Ferrari (Wednesday to Friday) - cover each others PPA

Purple - Mrs Keeley (Monday to Thursday), Mrs Waugh (Friday) and Mrs Bragg (PPA - Purple Class)

LSAs

Teal - Mrs Hassell

Purple - Miss Waters

1:1s

Teal - Mrs Denford, Mrs Kemp-Baker, Mrs Meech

Purple - Mrs Orchard, Miss Moody, Mrs Abbott

Uniform

Please ensure
your child's
uniform is
named.

School Uniform



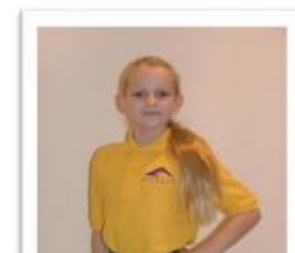
Parents are encouraged to support us in providing the suggested items of clothing which can be purchased either from our School Shop (Emblem in Wickford: 18 The Broadway, Wickford, Essex, SS11 7AA) or at www.myclothing.com. We believe that uniform helps to create a school identity and the children should wear our uniform and the Abacus logo with pride.

Please note: Trainers and Hooded Sweatshirts/Jackets are not allowed in school.

We do ask that long hair be tied back and that designs or logos are not shaved into hair. No unnatural hair colours (dyed hair) or unconventional hairstyles will be accepted.

Our school colours are PURPLE and GOLD

Sweatshirt/Cardigan	Purple
Fleece	Purple
Trousers/Skirt/Pinafore	Grey
Polo Shirt	Gold
Girls' Dresses	Purple or Yellow Gingham
Footwear	Black shoes, no heels (no trainers)



Organisation

- ▶ Please inform us via text or in person if at the end of the school day your child is allowed to:
 - ▶ Walk around to another classroom.
 - ▶ Meet you at the school gate.
 - ▶ Attends KellyCare and what days.
 - ▶ Attend a club.
 - ▶ Be picked up by somebody else.
 - ▶ Walk home later in the school year in preparation for Year 6.
- ▶ If it is necessary for your child to have a mobile phone this will need to be switched off before entering the school site and handed to the class teacher/LSA. Your child will then collect this at the end of the day.
- ▶ Your child should bring a named water bottle to school every day - these can be refilled in the classroom.

Organisation

- ▶ Your child should bring a piece of fruit or vegetable as a snack.
- ▶ **We have staff and children in school who have severe nut allergies so we are a nut free school. This means that no nuts or nut products will be able to come into our school at all. Please ensure your child does not bring nuts or nut products for snacks or in their lunchbox. They will not be allowed to eat anything containing nuts in our school and these will be returned home unopened to ensure everyone is safe.**
- ▶ Your child should wear appropriate clothing for the weather, including proper school shoes (no black trainers) and coat.
- ▶ Please could your child bring a plastic bag for their coat when it is wet (to avoid damaging other items in their locker), if there are no pegs available.

Organisation

- ▶ Locker keys are free of charge, however, a replacement key will cost £5 to cover a new one being cut.
- ▶ Please could your child bring in an art apron (named), for example, an old polo/t-shirt/shirt. These will remain in school for the year.
- ▶ Please encourage your child to develop their independence by remembering their own belongings for the day.

Communication

- ▶ We use the text system to communicate with you regularly.
- ▶ The newsletter is available weekly online. Please check the calendar on the school website for dates.
- ▶ If you have any concerns or questions, please text us and we will get back to you. In the morning and after school, there is often not enough time to speak properly to you at the door.

Communication - Padlet

- ▶ This year we will continue to use Padlet as a digital tool to share photos and work over the course of the year. Our class Padlet will be password protected so only parents and staff can access them. Please do not share screenshots, links or passwords externally.
- ▶ We hope you enjoy browsing our Padlet. The login details for your class will be sent out shortly, which will include a QR code and password.



PE

- ▶ Our PE days are Monday and Wednesday.
- ▶ Your child should come to school wearing their P.E kit.
- ▶ They should wear their coloured house t-shirt and black tracksuit bottoms/shorts and black/house colour hoody/jumper as the weather gets colder.
- ▶ Children are not allowed to wear earrings for P.E. They will not be able to participate in P.E if they can not take their earrings out themselves.
- ▶ All long hair must be tied back for P.E lessons.



Trips

Autumn Term: Planetarium (Science) TBC

Spring Term: First Aid (PSHE) and O2 (Music)

O2 Young Voices - Monday 23rd February 2026: We will be organising to go to the O2 again this year, which is a wonderful opportunity for the children to sing in front of an audience. Details will follow shortly.

You can access the music and dance including Makaton videos through the Young Voices website once you have registered.

Summer Term: Viking Day (History), Field Trip - Wick Country Park (Geography) and Transition Project with Oakfield Primary

Due to rising costs, school trips can only go ahead if we receive enough contributions to cover the costs. We are very aware of financial implications that we are all under and have kept this in mind when planning.

Assessment

- ▶ Termly assessments will take place in Maths, GPS (Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling) and Reading.
- ▶ Half-termly 'Star Tests' linked to Accelerated Reader.
- ▶ Spellings - your child is tested termly on Year 3/4 or Year 5/6 statutory words. These form part of their weekly homework. They should be encouraged to learn these.

Reading

- ▶ <https://www.thereaderteacher.com/>

This website recommends reads for each year group and will be useful to supplement your child's reading. There are non-fiction and reluctant reader ideas on here as well.

- ▶ Our school website also has a 'Reading at Abacus' page under the 'School Info' tab that offers ideas and advice.
- ▶ Your child can still read books from home as well as books that are not available on Accelerated Reader.

Reading Homework

Regular Reading

- ▶ Children should read at home for at least 20 mins at least three times a week and should record this in their diary alongside when they read in school (see example).
- ▶ Diaries will be monitored on Fridays and regular discussions regarding reading habits and reading for pleasure will take place in class. If we recognise that your child might not be reading as frequently as needed, we will be in touch for your support.
- ▶ Children can continue to complete their quizzes at home on <https://global-zone61.renaissance-go.com/welcomeportal/2231238>

Date, book and page number	Comments <small>Give a score out of 10 to show how much you enjoyed your reading</small>	
8/9/25 Harry Potter	School pg 1-10	Home pg 10-25 <div data-bbox="1402 294 1495 357"><div></div>10</div>
		<div data-bbox="1402 494 1495 556"><div></div>10</div>
		<div data-bbox="1402 694 1495 756"><div></div>10</div>
		<div data-bbox="1402 893 1495 956"><div></div>10</div>
		<div data-bbox="1402 1093 1495 1156"><div></div>10</div>
		<div data-bbox="1402 1293 1495 1356"><div></div>10</div>

Why Read at home?

STUDENT A READS

- 20 minutes per day
- 3,600 minutes per school year
- 1,800,000 words per year



SCORES IN THE 90TH
PERCENTILE ON
STANDARDIZED TESTS

STUDENT B READS

- 5 minutes per day
- 900 minutes per school year
- 282,000 words per year



SCORES IN THE 50TH
PERCENTILE ON
STANDARDIZED TESTS

STUDENT C READS

- 1 minute per day
- 180 minutes per school year
- 8,000 words per year



SCORES IN THE 10TH
PERCENTILE ON
STANDARDIZED TESTS

Accelerated Reader

- ▶ Your child can complete their quizzes at home on <https://global-zone61.renaissance-go.com/welcomeportal/2231238>
- ▶ Please ensure you have signed up to receive email updates about your child's progress. Please ask your class teacher/s for your login details, if you are unsure.
- ▶ In order to make good progress, your child should read a range of authors and genres. Please see recommended reads at the end of the PowerPoint.
- ▶ Your child can use <https://www.arbookfind.co.uk/> to search whether a book is on Accelerated Reader or check the book level at home.

TTRS Homework

- ▶ Please continue to use Times Table Rockstars to ensure quick recall. It is recommended by TTRS to improve retention and recall little and often, e.g. 10 minutes three times a week minimum.

Spelling Homework

- ▶ Children in Year 5 are not given weekly spelling lists to learn, although they will still have tests or dictations in class based on the weekly spelling pattern.
- ▶ Once testing of the Years 3/4 (Autumn) and Years 5/6 (Spring/Summer) statutory spelling words has been completed, your child will bring home a sheet with words to practise throughout the year.
- ▶ The highlighted words are the ones your child knows already.

Behaviour Policy

- ▶ Both classes have their class rules displayed as part of their class charter.
- ▶ Good behaviour and positive attitudes toward learning will be rewarded at every opportunity.
- ▶ Any major issues with behaviour will be communicated with you and action taken as required.

Online Safety

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk>

- ▶ Please continue to discuss online safety and monitor social networks and sites that your child is accessing.
- ▶ We will be looking at online safety this term.

Social Media Age Restrictions

Under 13
(with parental consent)



13 +



16+



17+

18+



18
(13 with parental permission)



The 2 Johns (TBC): we will be having an online safety workshop with Year 5 on Monday 1st December. Keep an eye out for details about a parent workshop.

RSE

- ▶ Relationships and Sex Education in primary schools is now a statutory subject, alongside Health Education. Schools are also advised to provide a relevant, appropriate Sex Education curriculum in the UK as part of their whole school PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) curriculum.
- ▶ In Primary schools, the government wants the subjects to put in place the key building blocks of healthy, respectful relationships, focusing on family and friendships, in all contexts, including online. This will sit alongside the essential understanding of how to be healthy.
- ▶ In school we use The Medway scheme and an overview can be found on the school website.

Year 4 or 5 <i>Puberty: time to change</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> about some of the physical changes experienced during puberty 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> identify some of the physical changes that happen to bodies during puberty explain that puberty begins and ends at different times for different people use scientific vocabulary for external male and female body parts/genitalia
Year 4 or 5 <i>Puberty: menstruation and wet dreams</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> about the physical changes that happen to males and females during puberty 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> use to use scientific vocabulary for external and internal male and female body parts/genitalia explain what happens during menstruation (periods) explain what is meant by ejaculation and wet dreams
Year 4 or 5 <i>Puberty: personal hygiene</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> about the importance of personal hygiene during puberty to respond to questions about puberty 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> explain how and why it is important to keep clean during puberty describe ways of managing physical change during puberty respond to questions and give advice to others about puberty
Year 4 or 5 <i>Puberty: emotions and feelings</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> how and why emotions may change during puberty about getting appropriate help, advice and support about puberty 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> describe how emotions and relationships may change during puberty know where we can get the help and support we need in relation to puberty

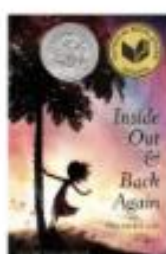
100 Books To Read In Year 5 and 6



Demon Dentist
David Williams



Goodnight Mister Tom
Michelle Magorian



Inside Out and Back Again
Thérèse Lay



The Suitcase Kid
Jacqueline Wilson



Mortal Engines
Philip Reeve



Firegirl
Tony Abbott



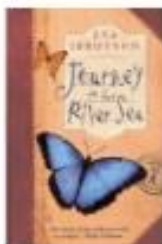
The Many Worlds of Albie Bright
Christopher Edge



Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief
Rick Riordan



The Graveyard Book
Neil Gaiman



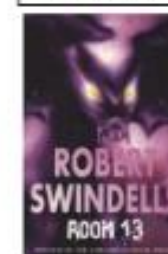
Journey to the River Sea
Eva Robinson



Five on a Treasure Island
Enid Blyton



Time Travelling with a Hamster
Ross Welford



Room 13
Robert Swindells



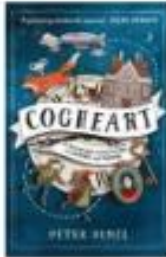
Kick
Mitch Johnson



Millions
Frank Cottrell-Boyce



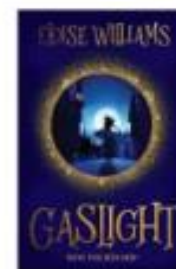
Street Child
Berlie Doherty



Cogheart
Peter Bunzl



Cloud Busting
Malorie Blackman



Gaslight
Elsie Williams



Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone
J.K. Rowling



The Imaginary
A.F. Harrold

100 Books To Read In Year 5 and 6



Matilda
Roald Dahl



King of the Dumps
Clive King



Artemis Fowl
Eoin Colfer



Diary of a Wimpy Kid
Jeff Kinney



Five Children and It
E Nesbit



Beetle Boy
M G Leonard



Clockwork
Philip Pullman



The Secret Garden
Frances Hodgson Burnett



The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe
C S Lewis



Alice's Adventures in Wonderland
Lewis Carroll



The Girl of Ink and Stars
Khari Milledge



Holes
Louis Sachar



Skellig
David Almond



A Series of Unfortunate Events
Lemony Snicket



The Phoenix
S F Said



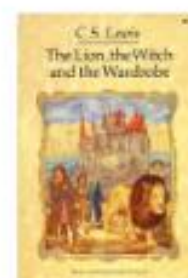
Charlotte's Web
F B White



Wonder
R J Palacio



The Crossover
Kwame Alexander



The Crosscut
Kwame Alexander



The Phoenix
S F Said



Charlotte's Web
F B White

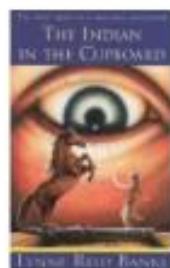
100 Books To Try And Read In Year 5 and 6



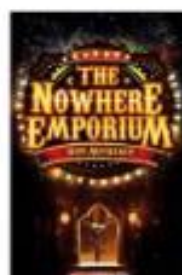
Once
Morris Gleitzman



Groosham Grange
Anthony Horowitz



The Indian in the Cupboard
Lynne Reid Banks



The Nowhere Emporium
Ross MacKenzie



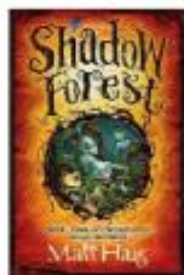
Oranges in No Man's Land
Charlotte Lamb



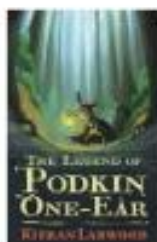
Rooftoppers
Katherine Rundell



A Girl Called Owl
Amy Wilson



Shadow Forest
Matt Haig



The Legend of Podkin One-Ear
Karen Lawrence



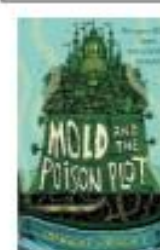
The London Eye Mystery
Neil Gaiman



The Silly Book of Side-Splitting Stuff
Andy Smedley



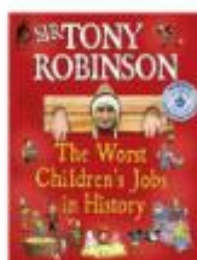
The Dreamsnatcher
Abi Elphinstone



Mold and the Poison Plot
Anne Fine



Flour Bables
Anne Fine



The Worst Children's Jobs in History
Tony Robinson



The Amazing Maurice
Terry Pratchett



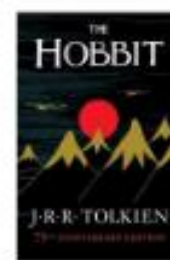
The Wolves of Willoughby Chase
Joan Aiken



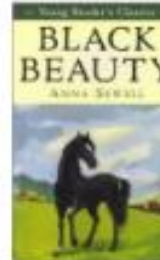
The Queen's Nose
Dick King-Smith



Who Let the Gods Out?
Maz Evans



The Hobbit
J.R.R. Tolkien



Black Beauty
Anna Sewall

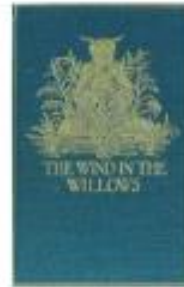
100 Books To Read In Year 5 and 6



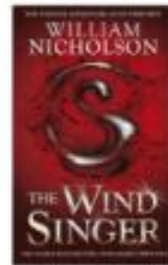
The Demon Headmaster
Gillian Cross



Lion Boy
Zizou Corder



The Wind in the Willows
Kenneth Grahame



The Wind Singer
William Nicholson



When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit
Judith Kerr



How to Train Your Dragon
Cressida Cowell



A Library of Lemons
Jo Cotterill



The Bubble Boy
Stewart Foster



The House With Chicken Legs
Sophie Anderson



The Boy Who Swam the Ocean in an Armchair
Lara Williamson



Pax
Sara Pennypacker



My Brother is a Superhero
David Salomon



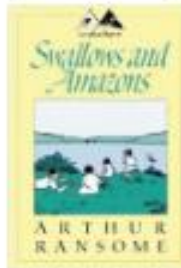
The Worst-Case Scenario of Tom Gates
Liz Pichon



Black Powder
Ally Sherrick



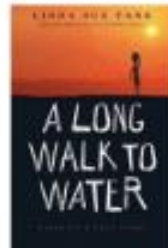
Sweet Pizza
G.R. Raver



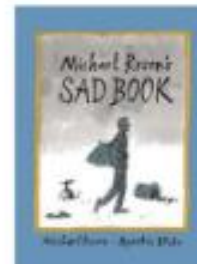
Swallows and Amazons
Arthur Ransome



Strange Star
Emma Carroll



A Long Walk to Water
Linda Sue Park



Sad Book
Michael Rosen



The Arrival
Shaun Tan



Ballet Shoes
Noel Streatfeild

100 Books To Read In Year 5 and 6



Watership Down
Richard Adams



Swimming to the Moon
Jane Fildes



Carrie's War
Nina Rowden



Peter Pan
J.M. Barrie



Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls
Emma Carroll



Winter Magic
Stories by Various Authors



Worry
David Horne



The Secret of Nightingale Wood
Lucy Strange



The Invention of Hugo Cabret
Brian Selznick



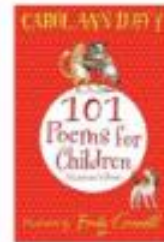
There May Be a Castle
Peter Tardif



Skulluggery Pleasant
David Almond



Howl's Moving Castle
Hayao Miyazaki



101 Poems for Children
Carol Ann Duffy



The Goldfish Boy
Lisa Thompson



The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane
Kate DiCamillo



The Wonderful Wizard of Oz
L. Frank Baum

PGL - Bawdsey Manor



What is PGL?

- The purpose of the trip is for children to gain experiences they wouldn't normally have e.g.
 - Physical challenge
 - mental challenge
 - promoting independence
 - team work
 - supporting others
 - and lots more!
- **Sunday 11th - Wednesday 14th October** - leaving at 10am on the Sunday and returning around 3.30pm on the Wednesday

While we are there...

- 4 activities per day (1 ½ hours each) completed in small groups with an evening activity before bed.
- Children complete activities in groups of approx. 12 with an Abacus member of staff with each group and trained staff who run the activities.

Cost

The total cost including travel will be £345.00.

To secure our booking we will require a non-refundable deposit of £145.00 no later than Friday 3rd October.

By paying, you give consent for your child to attend this trip.

The remaining balance of £200.00 needs to be paid by Friday 5th June 2026.

Due to the fact the children and staff are giving up part of their weekend, they will not be expected into school on Thursday 15th October 2026.

Example Timetable

	Group	Meeting Point	Group Leader	Session 1 9:00 - 10:30	Session 2 10:40 - 12:10	Session 3 14:00 - 15:30	Session 4 15:40 - 17:10	Evening 19:30 - 20:30
Sunday	1					Climbing (CL1)	Challenge Course (CC1)	Ambush (AMB1)
	2					Climbing (CL2)	Challenge Course (CC2)	Ambush (AMB1)
	3					Challenge Course (CC1)	Climbing (CL1)	Ambush (AMB1)
	4					Challenge Course (CC2)	Climbing (CL2)	Ambush (AMB1)
	5					Giant Swing (GS1)	Archery (A1)	Ambush (AMB2)
Monday	1			Raft Building (RB1)	Survivor (SU1)	Jacob's Ladder (JL1)	Archery (A1)	Disco (DIS1)
	2			Raft Building (RB2)	Survivor (SU2)	Jacob's Ladder (JL2)	Archery (A2)	Disco (DIS1)
	3			Survivor (SU1)	Raft Building (RB1)	Archery (A1)	Jacob's Ladder (JL1)	Disco (DIS1)
	4			Survivor (SU2)	Raft Building (RB2)	Archery (A2)	Jacob's Ladder (JL2)	Disco (DIS1)
	5			Beach/Coastal Walk (CW1)	Climbing (CL1)	Raft Building (RB1)	Challenge Course (CC1)	Disco (DIS1)
Tuesday	1			Trapeze (TR1)	Aeroball (AE1)	Giant Swing (GS1)	Beach/Coastal Walk (CW1)	Campfire (CF1)
	2			Trapeze (TR2)	Beach/Coastal Walk (CW1)	Giant Swing (GS2)	Aeroball (AE1)	Campfire (CF1)
	3			Aeroball (AE1)	Trapeze (TR1)	Beach/Coastal Walk (CW1)	Giant Swing (GS1)	Campfire (CF1)
	4			Beach/Coastal Walk (CW1)	Trapeze (TR2)	Aeroball (AE1)	Giant Swing (GS2)	Campfire (CF1)
	5			Jacob's Ladder (JL1)	Survivor (SU1)	Trapeze (TR1)	Problem Solving (PS1)	Campfire (CF1)
Wednesday	1			Zip Wire (ZW1)	Problem Solving (PS1)	Depart		
	2			Zip Wire (ZW2)	Problem Solving (PS2)	Depart		

Staff Attending

TBC

Food and drink

- The buffet style restaurant means that children can 'mix and match' the items they love most.
- There is unlimited access to the salad bar and bread basket and children can help themselves to fruit.
- A vegetarian alternative will always be provided and they accommodate most special diets required on medical or religious grounds
- Water and squash are available with all meals and children are encouraged to refill their water bottles for regular use throughout the day. There are also water fountains available around the centre.

Example menu

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	
 BREAKFAST	Sausages Plant-based sausages (v) Scrambled eggs Mushrooms Baked beans Tomatoes	Sausages Plant-based sausages (v) Hash brown Mushrooms Baked beans Tomatoes	Bacon Plant-based sausages (v) Scrambled eggs Mushrooms Baked beans Tomatoes	Sausages Plant-based sausages (v) Scrambled eggs Mushrooms Baked beans Tomatoes	Bacon Plant-based sausages (v) Hash brown Mushrooms Baked beans Tomatoes	Sausages Plant-based sausages (v) Scrambled eggs Mushrooms Baked beans Tomatoes	Bacon Plant-based sausages (v) Hash brown Mushrooms Baked beans Tomatoes	Healthy Choices Available daily Fresh fruit - every mealtime Unlimited salad from our salad bar - lunch & dinner
	AVAILABLE EVERY DAY Choice of cooked & continental breakfast Continental options: Choice of cereals Porridge Assorted yoghurts White or brown toast & jam							
 LUNCH	AVAILABLE EVERY DAY Homemade soup of the day & roll Choice of meat, vegetarian or vegan option							
	Hot dog & wedges	Loaded jacket	Filled roll or wrap	Pasta & garlic bread	Burger, relish & skinny fries	Fajitas, tortilla chips & dips	Filled roll or wrap	
 DINNER	Mains Crispy chicken breast pieces with sweet & sour sauce Chickpea, lentil & coconut curry, naan (v) Vegetable Kiev (v) Sides Chips, rice, broccoli, carrots Dessert Doughnut	Mains Beef bolognese Piri Piri chicken Vegetable biryani (v) Sides Rosemary potatoes, pasta, green beans, roasted Mediterranean vegetables Dessert Raspberry ice cream cake	Mains Chicken vegetable tikka & naan Fish fingers Feta & roasted vegetable lattice (V) Sides Chips, rice, peas, carrots Dessert Chocolate crispy cake	Mains Sausages & onion gravy Chicken & vegetable pie Quorn & vegetable chow mein (v) Sides Mashed potato, mixed vegetables Dessert Apple crumble & cream	Mains Battered fish fillet & tartare sauce Meatballs in tomato sauce Lentil bolognese (v) Sides Chips, spaghetti, peas, carrots Dessert Ice cream	Mains Meat pizza Margherita pizza (v) Chicken Kiev Vegetable & mushroom pilaf (v) Sides Cajun fries, green beans, broccoli Dessert Profiteroles & chocolate sauce	Mains Roast dinner, Yorkshire pudding & gravy Mac & cheese (v) Sides Roast potatoes, roasted root vegetables Dessert Waffles & strawberry sauce	Dietary & Allergens We can cater for a wide variety of food requirements when notified in advance, including allergies, intolerances, medical conditions, and those specified by culture and religion. It may not always be possible to cater for more specific diets such as weight management programmes, organic etc.
AVAILABLE EVERY DAY Choice of meat, vegetarian or vegan option								



Medicine and First Aid

- 24 hour on site First Aid area and trained staff from PGL. All Abacus staff are first aid trained.
- Any medication needed during their stay is kept with Abacus staff who administer and keep a record of this.
- Please fill out the contact/medical form ASAP when sent out

Communication

- Children must not bring mobiles or tablets with them
- Staff will regularly update Mrs Blakeley and this will be passed onto parents
- Mrs Blakeley will send a test text on the Friday before the residential
- Unfortunately, children are not allowed to bring personal cameras, however, photos taken by staff will be shared every day on the school website.
- Class padlets will be updated with photos as regularly as possible whilst there

Dorm rooms

- Children will be allocated same sex dormitories in small groups (usually 6 or 8) with en-suite bathrooms
- Children should bring a sleeping bag and pillow with them (Duvets and pillows are available to rent at an additional cost.)
- Dorm allocations will be organised the week before we go and children will be in a room with their friends
- Staff bedrooms will be made clear to children. Staff doors will be open during the day while in the dorms and children can knock on the doors at night if they have any concerns

Other information

- Children can bring up to £10 with them to spend in the gift shop.
- The coach will arrive at school at 9:30am, ready to leave at 10am on **Sunday 11th October**
- The coach will leave PGL at approx. 2pm on the Wednesday and so should arrive back at school around 3:30pm.







