

WIDER LEARNING WEEK

YEAR 9

7-11 JULY 2025



Introduction

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to inform you about Wider Learning Week (WLW), which will take place from **Monday 7 to Friday 11 July 2025**. This week is an opportunity for students to participate in a pathway of personal interest, to develop their key skills, and to engage in wider learning.

In putting the programme together, we have tried to ensure a range of activities, at a range of costs. Some of the activities are free, and, where there is a charge, we have tried to minimise it. All costs will be confirmed once group sizes are known - the maximum number of students for each activity is listed as "Max No".

Your son/ward will be **engaged on the same pathway for all five days**. Therefore, it is important that he is careful and serious about his choices. Please take the time to look through the activities overleaf with your son/ward. Descriptions are intended as a guide, as activities may change depending on group size.

The final page of this booklet details what students need to do after making their choice. If any pathway is over-subscribed, we will look at students' Attitude to Learning in that curriculum area, as well as, in some cases, asking students to write a short application expressing why they should be chosen.

Please note that if students wish to complete the Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award, they must select this as their first-choice activity.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Yours faithfully,

Mr J Barry

Wider Learning Week Coordinator

Pathways

Codebreaking



Location: On/off-site

Max no.: 28 Cost: £45

Learn about the development of making and breaking codes over the course of history right up to modern day. It will include an Escape Room experience and a day looking at the history of codebreaking. We will then spend time in school designing our own escape room and seeing who can get out!

Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award



Location: On/off-site

Max no.: 45 Cost: £135

An accredited award to develop your independence and leadership skills, across two expeditions. You will plan your route, make your tents, and cook for yourself. This award is highly regarded by colleges, Sixth Forms, universities and employers. Unlike other pathways, you must do additional sections in your own time; dedication will be required to complete Expedition, Volunteering, Physical Activity and Skill. If you want to do DofE, you MUST choose this option to complete the Bronze award.

Computing



Location: On/off-site

Max no.: 20 Cost: £40

You will visit and take part in several technology-based activities and trips. This week will give you an understanding of how IT is used in industries and business as well as developing their passion for computing. In recent years, students have taken part in activities with experts in the industry with organisations such as Sky Studios, Bletchley Park and Legoland!

Engineering



Location: On/off-site

Max no.: 15 Cost: £40

You will engage in a range of engineering related activities on- and off-site such as the Design Museum. Throughout the week, you will explore the world of engineering and develop your engineering designing and making skills with a focus on using different materials.

Pathways

Journalism



Location: On-site
Max no.: 12
Cost: Free

Ever wondered what it would be like to investigate and report on live events as they unfold? In this pathway, you will experience life as a journalist. You will talk to a journalist and produce articles on all WLW activities. Students will take part in a takeover on social media site X, and be involved in the production of the Isleworthian newsletter.

Medical Makers

Location: On/off-site

Max no.: 20 Cost: £10

Each day we will step into the role of a different healthcare professionals and take part in hands-on activities such as: taking and sampling blood (phlebotomist), learning to read x-rays (radiologist), and dissecting and suturing (surgeon). This week will also involve a trip to an old operating theatre and apothecary in London.



Music Production

Location: On/off-site

Max no.: 20 Cost: Free

Do you have a passion for music? Interested in producing music using music technology? Want to develop your confidence and competence in creating podcasts, jingles and voiceovers? This is an opportunity for you to explore and develop your creative and technical music-making skills and have fun in the process. The week culminates with you presenting your work to students from local primary schools and teaching them how to make their very own work.



Pathways

Photography



Location: On/off-site

Max no.: 16 Cost: £10

You will take part in a combined art and photography week, looking at different techniques and exploring new skills. You will have the opportunity to visit a variety of architecturally interesting sites. Over the week, you will develop a portfolio of work using the medium of photography.

Sports Week



Location: On-site & London sports venues

Max no.: 40 Cost: £55

This activity will take in a mixture of sportsrelated activities both on-site and at sporting venues across London. Previous activities have included: cycling at the Velodrome, go karting, bowling, trampolining, beach volleyball, watching a test at Lords, and Top Golf.

Ypres

Location: Off-site Max no.: 40-45 Cost: £350

A three-day experience visiting historic WWI sites across France and Belgium. This pathway will help you understand and appreciate the scale of the sites as well as taking part in long-standing traditions and services like the Last Post and the Menin Gate. The latter in particular will be an extraordinary event as you lay a ceremonial wreath.



Next Steps

Selecting a Pathway

- Parents/carers <u>complete this simple form</u>.
- The form asks for three choices, in order of preference students will be allocated one of these.
- This form must be completed by Friday 13 December (9.00am) at the latest.

Payments

- Further information will be issued by the member of staff leading the activity after choices are confirmed.
- The deadline for full payment of costs for all activities is Monday 10 March 2025.

Timescales

FRIDAY 13 DECEMBER 2024 (9.00AM)	Final deadline to complete WLW choices online.
FRIDAY 24 JANUARY 2025	WLW choices are confirmed, and payment details are issued.
MONDAY 10 MARCH 2025	Final payment for all activities must be made.

