



10th October 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Malcolm Whales Sponsored Dorset Walk 2024

I am pleased to be offering The Malcolm Whales Dorset sponsored walk again as a school trip for July 2024. At this point, it is an expression of interest for the trip (via WisePay), enabling me to gauge the numbers interested. From past experience, this is a popular trip and numbers are limited across Years 10, 11 and 6th Form.

How students will be selected - Students will be assigned a numerical code, these codes will be drawn at random and then matched to the name. Contact would be made with everyone and the option to pay the deposit opened on WisePay for those offered an initial place. Any places not filled, will be offered in the same way, numerical code drawn at random.

Key information about the trip - The Malcolm Whales Foundation was set up with a number of aims, the main one being to raise awareness and funding to support those suffering from cancer, especially as a child or teenager. Over the 16 years the walk has run, it has led to the foundation raising over £500,000 which helps to provide support and mechanisms during peoples' fight or recovery.

The walk consists of 40 miles being covered over three days, starting in Weymouth and finishing near Poole, with challenging ascents and descents. The charity is really pleased with the support it has received over previous years from students, ex-students and families. If your child is interested to participate in the walk, the details are outlined below:

- Depart **Thursday 11th July 2024** and return **Monday 15th July 2024**
- Cost - £150
- Each day we will walk approximately 14 miles
- We will be camping for 4 nights at Burnbake campsite
- Food and drink will be provided. A small amount of spending money will be required. (On one of the nights participants purchase their own dinner in the local town)
- Participants will be sleeping in tents which they can share with their friends. If they are unable to find a tent, we have spare tents that can be borrowed.

On being offered a place, a non-refundable deposit of £40 is required.

Timeline of events:

- Expression of interest between 11th October 10.00am and 26th October 2.00pm.
- First Deposit open for those with an offered place w/c 30th October. Deposit payment due by 30th November.

- Any places not taken up from the initial offering will be offered to those on the reserve list (selected at random).
- Final Payment required by 5th March 2024.

On payment of the deposit, a sign-up form will be emailed out for completion. Students can then raise further sponsorship - forms are available for this or via justgiving. Please also be aware that a student's behaviour could jeopardise their place on the trip. The £150 goes towards the cost of transport, fuel, camping, t-shirts to be worn daily and food (lunch and dinner are all provided, except for the one night mentioned previously, milk is provided for breakfast). Sponsorship is key to the success of this event, and we encourage students to set up their own justgiving pages.

We are also looking for any type of donation or sponsorship of specific aspects e.g the cost of transport/accommodation etc. I can provide breakdown figures of individual costs if this is of assistance.

Any further information will be shared at relevant times in the build-up to the event, but with your participation and your support, we are able to make a massive difference to the lives of children suffering from cancer. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me: spatman@elycollege.co.uk

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S Patman', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mr S Patman
Trustee and Trip leader