



## **Sherwood Primary School**

### **Outdoor and Adventurous Activity Parental Consultation**

**May 2024**

Thank you to our Parents and Carers from Year 2 to Year 4 for taking part in a consultation on our OAA offer at Sherwood. This has been a valuable exercise and allowed us to consider our curriculum offer moving forward.

Alongside this survey, we have undertaken a number of comparisons with a range of providers for OAA residential visits and City Break Visits, to ensure that we are achieving the very best educational provision and value for money for our children and families.

At present, Sherwood offers the opportunity for children to attend:

- 1 day OAA visit in Y3
- 4 night residential visit in Year 5
- 4 night residential visit in Year 6

We received responses from 90 Parents from across Y2, Y3 and Y4 to the survey (this represents 50%).

**78%** of parents selected to continue to support our current offer. In addition to this, we received a wealth of comments and feedback on the value you give to these visits and opportunities.

We also received some really useful suggestions with regards to payment plans and we will begin to look into this for parents of children moving into Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5 in the next Academic year.

Thank you for taking part in the consultation. I can confirm that there will not be any changes to provision at this time.

Kind regards,

Mrs J Lumb

## Parent/Carer Comments to the consultation

I attended both Tower Wood and Plas Menai during my time at Sherwood and have extremely fond memories of those times which will stay with me for life. It gave me confidence to try new things and push me to do things I would never have ordinarily tried. I think these experiences are vital to our young people. My child has also expressed in recent weeks that one of her favourite memories of school to date is her Borwick Hall trip and she is excited for Tower Wood.

Thank you for consulting us on the trips. Amazing opportunities for our pupils to experience the outdoors, appreciate the benefit and skills that such experiences bring to children and the lasting memories that these will create. We also love the idea of a city break but probably not if it's an alternative to a residential OAA visit. Thank you for placing such emphasis on educational visits within the curriculum. My child can't wait and wants to do it all!

Thank you for gauging opinions in regard to this. I would prefer the same opportunities as in previous years and consider that with enough prior warning this enables planning/saving accordingly to account for these. Open to the City break option also in place of one residential as this would provide a valuable experience for the children. I do not think in the current climate that many families will openly say they can afford all these options right now however as stated above I feel with notice it is more realistic that the same trips offered in previous years could be afforded.

I feel it is only necessary to do one residential trip (doesn't matter whether it's in year 5 or 6). It is good to provide the children with this experience but the cost is quite significant and puts many families under pressure as they don't want their children to miss out. As a suggestion - some high school trips are announced 2 years in advance and parents have the option to pay monthly during that time. Some people may find it easier to pay £20 a month rather than £70/£80 as it is done currently.

I think that £450 is an awful lot of money for an educational visit. I understand why it costs that much, but I don't think that it would be an option for many parents. I know that PP students will be supported, but the income eligibility for FSM is very low. There are a whole host of middle earners that are not in receipt of benefits that will find this a difficult sum to manage. What worries me is that this means that children of parents with lower/middle incomes will be excluded from a week of educational activity with their peers.

I think access to these types of activities with peer groups and teacher is an amazing opportunity for the children. I understand the cost of living is increasing and as such the prices for these types of trips are going to increase but also the learning and opportunities the children receive from attending them far outweigh the cost of the trip!