

ACTIVITIES WEEK

2020



Your adventure awaits...

ACTIVITIES WEEK

Monday 18th May– Friday 22nd May 2020

Banchory Academy believes that a residential school trip or home-based activity forms a valuable part of a pupil's overall educational experience. Such trips provide opportunities to develop independence, build teamwork skills, make new friends, improve social and interpersonal skills, work with teachers in a more relaxed atmosphere and experience a new environment and culture.

This session, therefore, all S1–S3 pupils are being offered the opportunity to participate in an activity either within the UK or abroad.

This booklet provides general information on each of the residential and home-based activities on offer, and gives brief details about the destination, means of transport, accommodation and party leader. **The costs given are approximate as the final cost often depends on the exact number of pupils participating. It is quite possible, for example, that fuel surcharges may be imposed by coach operators and travel companies. The first deposit for each trip will be non-refundable.**

Kincardineshire Educational Trust (KET) Grant Aid for Educational Travel

Partial financial assistance may be available through application to the above Trust, forms for which are available on request from the School Office. Grant aid is not available for school-based activities. All applications received are means tested, and appropriate documentary evidence of your income must be provided. All applications **should be received by the Trust by 30th November 2019**. Should your application be successful, you will be informed of the amount granted by late May 2020. Any grant payable is paid directly to Banchory Academy.

Placing - The system we will employ again this year will give one choice, followed, for those without placing after the first choice, by a second choice that will allow us to inform pupils what is still available to them. If necessary we will then offer a third choice but again this will be informed by what is available. At this point we hope to have placed the vast majority of the pupils. This will speed up the whole process and give youngsters and parents' better information by which to make further choices and an earlier conclusion. The timeline below gives an idea of how this will look in terms of dates. **We cannot avoid disappointment to some, but we try to ensure that youngsters are given, if they wish, a residential experience at some point over the three years. It is important to understand that we do not have an endless supply of staff and therefore places to accommodate all choices each year. We do not operate on a basis of "first choice" but on a residential place.** No system is fool-proof but we hope we have improved the choice and placing process for all of us. We also have a series of short meetings during extended intervals that will allow party leaders' easier access to all their group members.

The programme this session offers a range of home-based and residential trips. Old favourites are in place but we have some new activities on offer this session that we are confident will attract a good response.

Two myths to dispel: we do not place youngsters on a first come first served basis, this seems to do the rounds every year. No-one is placed until the final day for forms to be returned and only once the party leader has finalised their own party. Secondly the idea that you can just opt out of Activities Week. **If you choose not to participate and do not attend school then an unauthorised absence will be placed against that pupil for the entire week.**

We do look at what a pupil has done in the past on Activities Week and try to be fair in placing for S1-3.

We believe that Activities Week is an important and stimulating part of our curriculum for all concerned. The staff work extremely hard to put together activities, usually the culmination of a year's work, that allow different experiences for the youngsters both at home and abroad and the pupils respond very positively.

Date	Action
W/b 16 th Sep	Choice form return by Wednesday 18 th September Trip placing meetings.
W/b 7 th Oct	Thursday 10 th October pupils advised of placing by letter issued at Registration. Second choice places issued to those not placed.
W/b 28 th Oct	Monday 28 th October second choice returns to office. Friday 1 nd November second placing process completed. Third choice process (if necessary) now begins. Committee Members will assist any pupils remaining unallocated in making a choice.
Thur 08 th November	Extended Interval for group meeting.
Fri 07 th February	Extended Interval for group meeting.
Fri 27 th March	Extended Interval for group meeting.
Fri 07 th May	Extended interval for group meeting.

The activities available in 2020 are as follows:

Home Every Night	UK Residential	Continental
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adrenalin Rush• Braids and Beauty• Days Here and There• Eco Creations• Golf• Greatest Coco Crafting Showman• Horse Riding• Land & Loch Outdoor Tri Adventure• Mountain Biking• Photography• Thrills & Spills	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Caledonian Capers (short residential)• Discover Scotland• York	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amsterdam• Ardeche• Costa Brava Water Sports, Spain

After studying the activities on offer, parents should indicate their child's choice by completing and returning the form at the end of this booklet.

Forms (on the last page of this booklet) should be returned to register teachers by **Wednesday 18th September 2019.**

In accordance with Health and Safety Policy, a risk assessment will be carried out on all activities by the group leader.

For pupils who cannot be placed in an Activity group, for whatever reason, we will be organising an in-school timetable for the week. This will be led by members of staff not involved in an activity. The week will give experience of a range of subjects that will be different from normal timetabled activities but will add a different perspective to the subject other than that delivered via the curriculum.

S1 – S3 ACTIVITIES WEEK

Monday 18th May – Friday 22nd May 2020

Activity/Destination:	Adrenalin Rush
Brief Description:	<p>A varied and active week to get the adrenalin flowing.</p> <p>Are you brave enough to storm the enemy base and capture the flag whilst the paintballs are flying? Do you have the brainpower and teamwork skills to solve puzzles and find the key to the escape room before the clock runs out?</p> <p>Can you endure the wilderness challenge; a back-to-basics, fire-building, shelter-constructing survival contest?</p> <p>Have you got the strength to cling on until you reach the top of the climbing wall?</p> <p>Will you keep your balance on the Segway while all around are losing theirs?</p>
Inclusive Dates:	Monday 18 th - Friday 22 nd May
Transport:	Coach
Number of Pupils:	40
Eligible Year Groups:	S1-3
Other Requirements:	-
Approx. Cost:	£250
Group/Party Leader:	Mr M Grier

S1 – S3 ACTIVITIES WEEK

Monday 18th May – Friday 22nd May 2020

Activity/Destination:	Amsterdam
Brief Description:	From art galleries and museums to a football stadium tour and day trip to a theme park, Amsterdam offers something for everyone! With loads to see, we will travel overnight on the ferry to make the most of our time. There will be opportunities to explore the bustling city by foot, even taking in a local market. If you want the opportunity to experience culture whilst having lots of fun then make sure you sign up for Amsterdam 2020!
Inclusive Dates:	Sunday 17 th – Friday 22 nd May
Transport:	Coach and overnight ferry
Number of Pupils:	40
Eligible Year Groups:	S1 – 3
Other Requirements:	We will be experiencing much of Amsterdam on foot so sensible shoes and the ability to keep up with a physically demanding trip are essential. Good timekeeping and strong listening skills will be required as there will be opportunities for participants to explore some of the activities independently.
Approx. Cost:	£630
Group/Party Leader:	Miss L Eadie

S1 – S3 ACTIVITIES WEEK

Monday 18th May – Friday 22nd May 2020

Activity/Destination: **Ardeche (South France)**

Brief Description:

LET US TAKE YOU ON AN ADVENTURE!!!!



During this week you will discover one of Europe's most breath-taking natural wildernesses as you complete the 35km river descent, taking in the bends and white waters of the Ardeche River. We will paddle in pairs through one of the most dramatic landscapes in France, with plenty of opportunities along the way to play, swim and picnic. During our days on the river we will have an overnight camp and barbecue at the Gournier Bivouac site. During our days off the river we will participate in rock climbing and weaselling which will reinforce team building skills and problem solving. In addition, we will also complete the Treetop high ropes course – an exhilarating adventure with zip wires, bridges and swings.

During our week we will be staying in a 3-star campsite on the banks of the Chassezac river, only 20mins away from the Ardeche gorge and the Pont d'arc site. The campsite has a swimming pool and games areas and lots of trees to provide much needed shade from the hot summer sun.

Inclusive Dates: **Sunday 17th – Saturday 23rd May**

Transport: **Coach and Air**

Number of Pupils: **40**

Eligible Year Groups: **S1-3**

Other Requirements: **Water confident**

Approx. Cost: **£750**

Group/Party Leader: **Mr B Petrie**



S1 – S3 ACTIVITIES WEEK

Monday 18th May – Friday 22nd May 2020

Activity/Destination:	Braids and Beauty
Brief Description:	This year, Banchory's Braids and Beauty is looking for enthusiastic pupils to show off their hair and beauty talents. Learn new skills from up-and-coming and experienced local experts in gel nails, occasion makeup application and hair styling. Then get creative and design, create and photograph your "look" for the showcase at the end of the week.
Inclusive Dates:	Monday 18 th – Friday 22 nd May
Transport:	N/A
Number of Pupils:	Approx 20
Eligible Year Groups:	S1-S3
Other Requirements:	A willingness to learn and some artistic flair! Pupils may be required to undertake a "patch test" on certain products before the week commences.
Approx. Cost:	£75
Group/Party Leader:	Miss A Fraser and Mrs C Burt

S1 – S3 ACTIVITIES WEEK

Monday 18th May – Friday 22nd May 2020

Activity/Destination: **Caledonian Capers – *North, South, East & West***

Brief Description: Scotland based day trips with a short residential element of 1-2 nights (tbc). We will visit a fine selection of Scotland's major attractions both old and new, with a theme for each day. This will include animals, art, history, science, fun experiences and much, much more.

Whilst excursions still have to be finalised, we hope to include visits in the areas of Dundee, Stirling, Edinburgh and further North.

Inclusive Dates: Monday 18th May to Friday 22nd May

Transport: Bus and/or train

Number of Pupils: 30 pupils

Eligible Year Groups: S1-3

Other Requirements: -

Approx. Cost: £350 - £400

Group/Party Leader: Ms J Ellson

S1 – S3 ACTIVITIES WEEK

Monday 18th May – Friday 22nd May 2020

Activity/Destination:

Costa Brava Watersports, Spain



This exciting and packed trip sees the school return to the ever-popular Costa Brava for watersports adventures. Pupils are led by highly trained professional staff and we will have the opportunity to participate in various types of sailing, kayaking, snorkelling, bodyboarding and other water based activities. We will also spend time at the local water park where pupils can test their nerve on the rides, or relax in the sun (we hope!)



The trip will also include a day sight-seeing in the Catalan capital, Barcelona with its draw of the world famous “Camp Nou”, La Sagrada Familia and Park Guell. This *Guardian* award-winning campsite sports a private camping area, recreational activities including swimming pool and close proximity to the beach. Students will be housed in wooden en-suite cabins. The trip is full board on site with a varied breakfast, lunch and dinner provided.

Inclusive Dates:

Friday 15th (pm) – Saturday 23rd May (am)

Transport:

Executive 53 seat coach and Dover-Calais ferry crossing

Number of Pupils:

40

Eligible Year Groups:

S3

Other Requirements:

Ability to Swim

Approx. Cost:

£695

Group/Party Leader:

Mr N Bentley

S1 – S3 ACTIVITIES WEEK

Monday 18th May – Friday 22nd May 2020

Activity/Destination:	Days Here and There
Brief Description:	A variety of day trips in the local area. These might include the cinema; a visit to Codonas Amusement arcade; rock wall and fitness classes at RGU Sport; a visit to the Maritime and Tolbooth museums; ice skating at the Linx Ice Arena; trampolining in Inverurie and tubing at Alford ski-centre.
Inclusive Dates:	Monday 18 th May – Friday 22 nd May
Transport:	Coach
Number of Pupils:	Maximum of 29 pupils
Eligible Year Groups:	S1 -3
Other Requirements:	No particular ability required but some of the activities will require a basic level of fitness.
Approx. Cost:	Approximately £140
Group/Party Leader:	Mrs I Stewart

S1 – S3 ACTIVITIES WEEK

Monday 18th May – Friday 22nd May 2020

Activity/Destination:	Discover Scotland by Bike & Hike
Brief Description:	A challenging adventure by mountain bike and foot starting in Fort William climbing the two highest mountains in the UK (Ben Nevis & Ben Macdui) camping as we travel to the Linn O’Dee. This trip may be physically and mentally demanding but certainly will create unforgettable memories of the beauty and wonder of the Scottish landscape.
Inclusive Dates:	Monday 18 th to late evening Friday 22 nd May
Transport:	Minibus
Number of Pupils:	12
Eligible Year Groups:	S1-3
Other Requirements:	You must have a mountain bike and be physically fit, willing to train throughout the year.
Approx. Cost:	£425
Group/Party Leader:	Mrs L Forman

S1 – S3 ACTIVITIES WEEK

Monday 18th May – Friday 22nd May 2020

Activity/Destination:	Eco Creations
Brief Description:	<p>A creative week of upcycling and re-purposing items brought in by the participants and /or sourced by staff. We will undertake large projects (over the whole week) interspersed with mini projects and will tailor these to suit the interests (and items) of participants.</p> <p>We will, also, do some cooking with short dated ingredients/overstocks, fresh fruits and vegetables creating snacks and lunches – challenging participants to unleash their inner chef.</p> <p>A week to suit pupils who enjoy hands on activities and are interested in developing their own “projects” as well as being part of team activities.</p>
Inclusive Dates:	Monday 18 th – Friday 22 nd May
Transport:	Nil
Number of Pupils:	20 max
Eligible Year Groups:	S1-3
Other Requirements:	-
Approx. Cost:	£30
Group/Party Leader:	Mrs. Skinner

S1 – S3 ACTIVITIES WEEK

Monday 18th May – Friday 22nd May 2020

Activity/Destination:	Golf
Brief Description:	<p>Birdies, Bogies, Bandits and Burgers-</p> <p>Pupils will get the chance to play a variety of 9-hole courses around Aberdeenshire. Golf experience and a handicap is preferred and having your own set of golf clubs is essential to take part in this trip. Each day will offer the pupils a new challenge and the various formats of competitions will allow the pupils to gain a better understanding of the rules of golf, as well as allowing them to challenge themselves individually and as a team. There will be a variety of prizes on offer including- longest drive, closest to the pin and shot of the day. Lunch is provided everyday by the catering staff at the golf clubs (typically sandwiches and burgers etc).</p>
Inclusive Dates:	Monday 18 th – Friday 22 nd May
Transport:	Staff Cars
Number of Pupils:	10
Eligible Year Groups:	S1-S3
Other Requirements:	Handicap is preferred. Own set of golf clubs. Waterproof clothing. Suntan lotion (if appropriate)
Approx. Cost:	£200
Group/Party Leader:	Mr D Wylie

S1 – S3 ACTIVITIES WEEK

Monday 18th May – Friday 22nd May 2020

Activity/Destination: **The Greatest Coco Crafting Showman**

Brief Description: Come and join us as we watch the films Coco and The Greatest Showman then engage in a week of arty crafty activities inspired by them. If you like the sound of creating Day of the Dead masks, sugar skulls, marigold pom-poms, candle holders, top hats, juggling balls and finger puppets then this is the activity for you 😊

Inclusive Dates: Monday 18th – Friday 22nd May

Transport: -

Number of Pupils: 12

Eligible Year Groups: S1-S3

Other Requirements:
(e.g. ability to swim) -

Approx. Cost: £25-£30

Group/Party Leader: Mrs F Burnett

S1 – S3 ACTIVITIES

Monday 18th May – Friday 22nd May 2020

Activity/Destination:	Equestrian week at Midstrath Equiworld Club, Ballogie, Aboyne
Brief Description:	<p>If you are a keen rider and looking to improve and gain more experience riding, or have never ridden before but love horses and would like to learn to ride, then the Equestrian week is for you.</p> <p>The week will involve a combination of riding lessons, hacking out through the surrounding forests and general stable management (grooming, tacking up, handling).</p> <p>This is a non-residential trip and each day will run from 9:30am-3pm.</p>
Inclusive Dates:	Monday 18 th - Friday 22 nd May
Transport:	Coach pick up and return to Banchory Academy
Number of Pupils:	20
Eligible Year Groups:	S1 – 3
Other Requirements:	-
Approx. Cost:	£308
Group/Party Leader:	Mrs L Meston

S1 – S3 ACTIVITIES WEEK

Monday 18th May – Friday 22nd May 2020

Activity/Destination:

Land and Loch

Brief Description:

This is a home based, action packed, multi-activity week utilising Knockburn Sports Loch and a day at the Raemoir Fishery: Master Stand Up Paddle Boarding, harness the raw power of the wind in your sailing boat and give triathlon a try! Couple these days on the water with a day of fishing and forest survival skills training which Bear Grylls would be proud of!

Inclusive Dates:

Monday 18th – Friday 22nd May

Transport:

Coach

Number of Pupils:

20

Eligible Year Groups:

S1 - S3

Other Requirements:

Bike and helmet, plus the ability to swim.

Approx. Cost:

£220

Group/Party Leader:

Mrs J Groucott



S1 – S3 ACTIVITIES WEEK

Monday 18th May – Friday 22nd May 2020

Activity/Destination:	Mountain Biking Experience
Brief Description:	You will experience 5 amazing days of mountain biking around some of the local area's best routes, from tough climbs to tricky descents to fast flowing single track. Likely destinations include Glenlivet, Glen Tanar, Fochabers, Kirkhill and North Ballater.
Inclusive Dates:	Monday 18 th – Friday 22 nd May
Transport:	Minibus and van to transport bikes.
Number of Pupils:	16
Eligible Year Groups:	S1-3
Other Requirements:	Own fully serviced mountain bike would be useful but not essential. Own helmet and cycling gloves. Downhill or Freeride bikes are not suitable.
Approx. Cost:	£50 based on 16 pupils participating
Group/Party Leader:	Dr M Skellern, Mr R Gray, Ms E Matheson, Mr B Bilisland

S1 – S3 ACTIVITIES WEEK

Monday 18th May – Friday 22nd May 2020

Activity/Destination:

Digital Photography Skills

Brief Description:



Working with a professional photographer for the week, you will develop or improve your digital photography skills and build up your portfolio.

You will be out on location to a variety of photo opportunities including coastal settings, city parks and the countryside.

You will also be using studio lighting for portrait work, create still life images and have the opportunity to shoot some light painting.

Throughout the week pupils will learn editing skills. The week finishes with pupils printing and mounting their best shots in a range of categories and creating an exhibition which is judged to find the winner for each category.

Inclusive Dates:

Monday 18th - Friday 22nd May 2020

Transport:

Minibus

Number of Pupils:

18

Eligible Year Groups:

S1-S3



Other Requirements:

Pupils taking part must have a **DSLR camera**, preferably with Manual, Aperture and Shutter settings. It would also be useful to have a **tripod** for slow shutter speed work.

Approx. Cost:

£80

Group/Party Leader:

Mrs L Brand

S1 – S3 ACTIVITIES WEEK

Monday 18 May – Friday 22 May 2020

Activity/Destination:	Thrills and Spills
Brief Description:	Come and have a go at kayaking, canoeing, gorge walking, surfing and coasteering! We will be having water-based fun in Aberdeenshire. All equipment will be provided – just bring a packed lunch and be ready to give it a go. No experience necessary.
Inclusive Dates:	Monday 18 th – Friday 22 th May 2020
Transport:	Adventure Aberdeen Minibus from school
Number of Pupils:	16
Eligible Year Groups:	S1-S3
Other Requirements: (e.g. ability to swim)	Ability to swim and confident in water.
Approx. Cost:	£240
Group/Party Leader:	Mrs N Hall, Mrs K Mauchline

S1 – S3 ACTIVITIES WEEK

Monday 18th May – Friday 22nd May 2020

Activity/Destination:	York
Brief Description:	Visiting the Historic City of York where we will explore York Minster, The Jorvick Centre, the York Dungeons and go on a Viking and Ghost walk. We will visit Flamingo land and explore around York's Chocolate Story where we get to make our own chocolate souvenirs!
Inclusive Dates:	Sunday 17 th – Friday 22 nd May
Transport:	Coach
Number of Pupils:	40
Eligible Year Groups:	S1-3
Other Requirements:	There is a lot of walking involved.
Approx. Cost:	£650
Group/Party Leader:	Miss S Devlin

BANCHORY ACADEMY

S1 - S3 Activities Week 2020
Monday 18th May – Friday 22nd May 2020

Pupils should choose only one activity.

Please Note: The first deposit for each trip will be non-refundable.

Pupil's Name: _____

Register Class: _____

Which activity did you have in

a) S1 - _____

b) S2 - _____

I would like my son/daughter to be considered for a place on the following activity.

Activity Choice: _____

I understand that in signing below that this choice cannot be guaranteed and that the school will endeavour to place my child on a residential trip on at least one occasion in S1-3

Parent/Carer's Signature: _____

Date: _____

**PLEASE RETURN TO REGISTER TEACHER BY
WEDNESDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER 2019**