

PLYMSTOCK SCHOOL

Challenge Week Choices Booklet



Monday 13th-Friday 17th July 2026

Link to choices form: <https://forms.office.com/e/8QG3FeJ5d>

ABOUT CHALLENGE WEEK (Monday 13th-Friday 17th July 2026):

Dear Parent / Carer,

At Plymstock School, Challenge Week is a highlight of the year for students in Years 8 and 9. It gives them the chance to step outside the classroom, try new experiences, and build confidence. Year 7 Community Cohesion Week also occurs during the same week and separate details about that week will be shared in the coming weeks.

Challenge Week is closely linked to our school's values of 'be kind, work hard and aim high' and our ambition to help every student 'ride the wave of ambition'. Whether exploring new places, developing skills, or uncovering hidden talents, students come away with memories and lessons that will stay with them for life. This is an exciting week where the curriculum is enriched by providing students with activities that cannot normally take place in an average day. All students will be expected to participate in the week.

Please read through this booklet to learn more about the exciting opportunities on offer. A copy of this booklet will also be available on the school's website and will be shared via class charts. Students will also be given a hard copy.

The cost of each activity is shown and you should indicate a first and second choice for your child by completing the choices form that can be accessed here:

<https://forms.office.com/e/8QG3FeJ5d>

Please note that deposits are non-refundable, so make sure your child selects his or her activity carefully.

Do not hesitate to contact me, or the member of staff who is organising the activity if you need further information.

Yours sincerely

D. Willcocks
dwillcocks@plymstockschool.org.uk

Link to choices form: <https://forms.office.com/e/8QG3FeJ5d>

REQUESTING YOUR ACTIVITY:

When you have read the booklet and made your selection, please fill in the choices form via the link below by

Friday 21st November.

I shall then process all the forms and let you know which activity your child has been allocated to.

Choices form: <https://forms.office.com/e/8QG3FeJ5d>

It is possible that your second choice will be needed, so please choose this with as much care as your first choice.

A place may be reviewed based on school attendance and behaviour in school.

PAYMENT AND COSTS:

Payments for all activities need to be paid through Parent Pay. If you have any questions about paying via Parent Pay, please contact the school finance department. Further details will be provided about how to pay for your child's allocation in due course.

All activities require a non-refundable deposit. We accept instalments for higher cost activities. Payment must be made in full by the 1st April 2026. N.B for Foreign trips, payments must be made in line with the schedule provided by the Trip Leader.

Please note: Costs are projected based on spaces available and are subject to change if not at full-capacity.

BEHAVIOUR:

At Plymstock School we have high expectations of the behaviour of our students when off the school premises. We must ensure that students' behaviour does not threaten the health or safety of other students, staff or members of the public, that we provide reassurance to members of the public about the school care and control over students and thus protect the reputation of the school and to provide protection to the individual staff from

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harmful conduct by students of the school when not on the school site.

Where a student does not behave to the expectations outlined above, Plymstock School reserves the right to remove any student from an activity being held off school site (including day trips and residential). Furthermore, where behaviour consistently falls below the standards and expectations within school, Plymstock School will remove the students from any planned activity, day trips, educational visit or residential. In such cases, we cannot guarantee that a refund will be provided.

HEALTH AND SAFETY:

We are aware of the potential hazards involved in adventure activities. It can sometimes be difficult, almost impossible, to create an opportunity for challenge whilst totally eliminating all risks. We hear of schools withdrawing from all types of such activity because of the risk of unforeseen danger or threat to the wellbeing of their children.

The staff involved in organising the activities have paid great attention to health and safety and some activities have been modified as a consequence. Where activities take place in a potentially hazardous environment, tuition and supervision by properly qualified instructors have been arranged. In situations where teachers at the school possess appropriate qualifications, their expertise is being fully employed to provide children with real adventure at reduced costs. Every activity included has been examined for health and safety and adequate staff/student ratios. As a result we can confidently offer a wide range of activities which are within the Education Authority's strict safety guidelines.

If you have any health and safety queries about any of the activities in this booklet, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Willcocks (dwillcocks@plymstockschool.org.uk)

RESIDENTIALS:

The following residential trips are bookable via deposit payment on Parent Pay from **10am** on **Wednesday 3rd November: Barcelona and Paris**. Please also complete the option form via the

Link to choices form: <https://forms.office.com/e/8QG3FeJ5d>

link- this will help me to keep friendship groups together and manage reserve spaces.

If you are successful in getting a place on a residential, you must still complete the form via the link with this activity as your first choice, as well as a second choice.

If you are unsuccessful in getting a place on a residential, and wish to be on a waiting list, tick which residential(s) you are interested in.

A deposit does not guarantee a place on an activity, a place may be reviewed based on school attendance and behaviour in school.

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IMPORTANT DATES:

Enrichment Week Booklet sent home via Class Charts announcements to parents.	Friday November 7 th 2025
Reminder messages left with parent/carers of any students without a choice during this week. If no choice is made by Friday 21 st November 4pm, students will be allocated to a free activity.	Week beginning Monday 24 th November 2025
Information to students and parent about allocated choice	Week beginning Monday 8 th December 2025
Deposit payment due on parent pay to secure place on allocated activity	15 th December 2026
Second payment due on ParentPay	2 nd February 2026
Third payment due on ParentPay	25 th March 2026
Letters and Consent forms via Evolve will be sent to parents during this time. Consent forms must be completed for students to attend any offsite activities.	April / May 2026
Final payment due on ParentPay – all balances should be cleared by this time.	1 st April 2026
Meeting for students in tutor time to finalise any details.	June 2026
Challenge Week takes place	Monday 13 th July- Friday 17 th July 2026

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RESIDENTIAL TRIPS:

BARCELONA

PARIS

PGL LIDDINGTON

WILD DARTMOOR

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BARCELONA:

Travelling to Barcelona by coach, sightseeing opportunities around culturally important parts of Barcelona, a visit to UNESCO site Gaudi's Parc Guell, Portaventura World theme park, and Camp Nou Experience. A letter regarding this trip was sent to all parents on the 23rd October 2025.



This activity is run by:	Mrs Prowse vprowse@plymstockschool.org.uk
Where:	Residential-Barcelona
Cost	£880

PARIS:

The trip will include a full day visit to Parc Astérix, a high adrenaline theme park to the north of Paris. A day visiting the sights of Paris itself, including the Eiffel Tower, Arc de Triomphe, Louvre and Place de la Concorde. The day will include an ascent to the top of the Tour Montparnasse for some spectacular views and a boat cruise on the River Seine. A full day visit to Disneyland Paris. A letter regarding this trip was sent to all parents on the 23rd October 2025.



This activity is run by:	Mrs Price jprice@plymstockschool.org.uk
Where:	Residential-Paris
Cost	£820

PGL LIDDINGTON:

Students will take part in a range of activities. For example: climbing; zip wire; swimming; and challenges at the PGL centre at Liddington. The week will begin with two days based at Plymstock School and the Wednesday to Friday will be based at the PGL Liddington activity centre.



This activity is run by:	Miss Davies edavies@plymstockschool.org.uk
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Link to choices form: <https://forms.office.com/e/8QG3FeJ5d>

Where:	Mondy and Tuesday based at Plymstock School. Wednesday to Friday at PGL Liddington.
Cost	£595

WILD DARTMOOR:

Outdoor and Adventurous activities based in school and around local area; including 2 nights under canvas (1-night at a base camp and 1-night wild camping). Students will be walking, cooking and pitching their own tents and cooking their own meals.



This activity is run by:	Mr M Taylor mktaylor@plymstockschool.org.uk
Where:	Residential-Dartmoor
Cost	£260

Link to choices form: <https://forms.office.com/e/8QG3FeJ5d>

OFF SITE ACTIVITIES:

DAY TRIPS

DRAW AND EXPLORE

FISHING

GOLF WEEK

SNOWSPORTS

SURFING

**WALKING AND
PHOTOGRAPHY**

Link to choices form: <https://forms.office.com/e/8QG3FeJ5d>

DAY TRIPS:

The week will be spent participating in a variety of activities at various venues which will include physical and mental challenges as well as the opportunity to enjoy the South West tourist sites. Included are a day at the following venues: Eden Project, Paignton Zoo, Woodlands, River Dart and Quay West.



This activity is run by:	Contact D. Willcocks in the first instance: Dwillcocks@plymstockschool.org.uk
Where:	Daily rotation of Eden Project, Paignton Zoo, Woodlands, River Dart and Quay West.
Cost	£170

DRAW AND EXPLORE:

The cost of the trip will include a sketchbook for each student as well as day trips to different locations. Students will have guided sketch sessions at different locations as well as time to explore and add to sketchbooks independently. The aim of the week is for students to enjoy sketching on location, learn how to capture different subject matter in a quick, loose and expressive way developing observational drawing skills as well as exploring different locations.



- The Eden Project
- The Box
- Paignton Zoo
- St Ives – Tate & Barbara Hepworth Museum
- National Marine Aquarium

This activity is run by:	Miss Harvey kharvey@plymstockschool.org.uk
Where:	Various locations-see above
Cost	£150

FISHING:

Lake fishing is a fun and relaxing way to connect with nature and learn new skills. You'll get to explore different types of fishing equipment, learn how to set up your tackle, and handle fish safely and respectfully. Along the way, you'll discover various species of fish

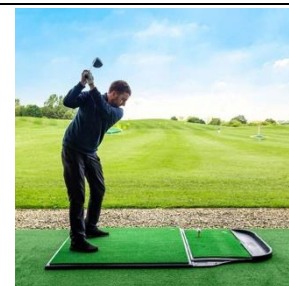
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and how to catch them. But lake fishing isn't just about the fish—it's also about learning how to behave responsibly around the water. You'll understand the code of conduct, like keeping the area clean, respecting wildlife, and staying safe. Whether it's your first time or you've fished before, it's a chance to enjoy a new experience, meet others, and create unforgettable memories by the lake.

This activity is run by:	Miss Ziegler jzeigler@plymstockschool.org.uk
Where:	Milemead Fisheries near Tavistock
Cost	£50

GOLF WEEK:

The week will be based at China Fleet and will include driving range sessions; short game putting and tournaments as well as holes on the course and unlimited balls. Students can bring their own equipment although the centre does have equipment to borrow. Students will need to bring their own packed lunch. Renting of clubs will be an added cost not included in the price stated here.



This activity is run by:	Mr Woolway hwoolway@plymstockschool.org.uk
Where:	China Fleet Golf Course
Cost	£132

SNOWSPORTS (SKIING OR SNOWBOARDING):

Spend a week at Plymouth Ski Centre learning to snowboard on their new Dry slope with qualified instructors. Compete with the skiers during 2 hours of snowboarding lessons a day mixed with chill time on the Viper Drop, Snowtubes and Toboggan Run. Snowboard, boot and helmet rental is included in the cost for the week. Students will need to make their own way to and from the Ski Centre each day.



OR:

Spend a week at Plymouth Ski Centre learning to ski on their new Dry slope with qualified instructors. Compete with the snowboarders during 2 hours of skiing lessons a day mixed with chill time on the Viper Drop, Snowtubes and Toboggan Run. Ski, boot and helmet rental is

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included in the cost for the week and students will need to make their own way to and from the Ski Centre each day.

This activity is run by:

Mr Wilson
cwilson@plymstockschool.org.uk

Where:

Plymouth Snowsports Centre

Cost

£200

SURFING:

Surf lessons at Bigbury beach - surfing for beginners or people new to the sport. 2 hour surf lesson daily followed by beach games in the afternoon



This activity is run by:

Mr Campbell
acampbell@plymstockschool.org.uk

Where:

Bigbury Beach

Cost

£250

WALKING AND PHOTOGRAPHY:

A different walk each day exploring the surrounding area. We then arrive back to school where we upload our photos onto Photoshop and manipulate them



This activity is run by:

Miss Reeve
sreeve@plymstockschool.org.uk

Where:

Plymstock School

Cost

Free

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ONSITE ACTIVITIES:

FILM WEEK

FOOTBALL

MEDIA WEEK

JEWELLERY MAKING

PATISSERIE MASTERCLASS

WARHAMMER WEEK

WELLBEING WEEK

WILLOW AND TISSUE MAKING

Link to choices form: <https://forms.office.com/e/8QG3FeJ5d>

FILM WEEK:

Join us for Film Week! From classic favourites to modern hits, immerse yourself in the magic of cinema. Enjoy screenings, discussions, and fun activities every day! Bring your friends and discover the art of storytelling through film.



This activity is run by:

Mr Waterfield
Jwaterfield@plymstockschool.org.uk

Where:

Plymstock School

Cost

There is no fee for this activity.

FOOTBALL:

Enhance your knowledge of football with Plymouth Argyle coaches. There will be the opportunity to play a range of different football games and formats including: street soccer, futsal and mini soccer. The focus will be on game play, theory, officiating and organisation to improve overall performance. The week will be based at school on our 3G pitches.



This activity is run by:

Contact D. Willcocks in the first instance:
Dwillcocks@plymstockschool.org.uk

Where:

Plymstock School

Cost

£80

MEDIA WEEK:

You will be based in a computer room for the week and will have the opportunity to explore different media types. You will have the opportunity to write stories independently and explore the media sources that interest you most.



This activity is run by:

Contact D. Willcocks in the first instance:
Dwillcocks@plymstockschool.org.uk

Where:

Plymstock School

Cost

There is no fee for this activity.

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JEWELLERY MAKING:

Learn how to make your own sterling silver and copper jewellery, such as rings, pendants, bangles and earrings, using traditional jewellery and silversmithing tools and techniques. Each session has a dedicated technique/skill to familiarise yourself with during the day and plenty of variety to keep your imagination running. Throughout the week you will build on these skills and techniques learned in previous sessions. With a maximum of only 10 students, it allows for the opportunity to provide you with plenty of one-to-one guidance.



This activity is run by:	Miss Graves sgraves@plymstockschool.org.uk
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Where:	Plymstock School
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Cost	£115
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PÂTISSERIE MASTERCLASS:

Day 1: Foundations of French Patisserie. You will be introduced to patisserie tools and ingredients and learn about Kitchen safety and hygiene. The day will also focus on:

- Basic doughs: pâte sucrée, pâte brisée, pâte à choux

- Hands-on: tart shells and choux buns

Day 2: Creams, Fillings & Custards

- Pastry cream, crème anglaise, and ganache

- Whipped ganache and mousseline cream

- Hands-on: éclairs, mille-feuille, and fruit tarts

Day 3: Viennoiserie & Laminated Doughs

- Croissant and pain au chocolat techniques

- Lamination process and fermentation

- Hands-on: shaping and baking viennoiserie

Day 4: Entremets & Modern Plated Desserts

- Layering textures and flavors

- Glazing, mirror glaze, and decoration

- Hands-on: build and decorate entremets

Day 5: Final Showcase & Evaluation



This activity is run by:	Miss McNamee lmcnamee@plymstockschool.org.uk
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Where:	Plymstock School
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Cost	£90
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WARHAMMER WEEK:

Link to choices form: <https://forms.office.com/e/8QG3FeJ5d>

During the week students will build and paint a combat patrol, learn how to play Warhammer 40K and visit the local warhammer store for a tournament day.



This activity is run by:	Mr Rogers srogers@plymstockschool.org.uk
Where:	Plymstock School
Cost	£115

WELLBEING WEEK:

A range of creative activities for students designed to promote creativity, relaxation, and positive mental health. Throughout the week, students will have the opportunity to take part in a variety of hands-on activities that encourage mindfulness and self-expression. Highlights include:

- Reverse Tie-Dye – Explore colour and design in a fun, creative way.
- Cooking & Baking – Learn new skills while making delicious treats.
- Nature Walks – Connect with the outdoors and enjoy fresh air.
- Bath Bomb & Candle Making – Create soothing items to take home.
- Plus, other engaging activities to inspire creativity and wellbeing!

This week is all about giving students time to relax, try new things, and focus on their mental and emotional health in a supportive environment.

This activity is run by:	Miss Mahon emahon@plymstockschool.org.uk
Where:	Plymstock School
Cost	Free

TISSUE AND WILLOW MAKING:

You will be learning how to make large willow and tissue sculptures. We will be making work based on monsters, fish, sea creatures and aliens. The sculptures will be highly decorative and great fun to make. Students will most likely work as part of small teams to design and create theirs. When the creations are finished, they will be displayed around the school before being able to take home.



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This activity is run by:	Mr Barnes Abarnes@plymstockschool.org.uk
Where:	Plymstock School
Cost	£15

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