

17 May 2023

Dear Parent or Carer,

RE: Spiers Bank House Visit

As a school we have always aimed to offer all Year 7 students the opportunity to visit Spiers Bank House residential centre as part of their Driffield School and Sixth Form experience. Your child is therefore invited to attend an educational visit to Spiers Bank House. The visit will be overnight, with all students having the opportunity to spend one and a half days at the centre before returning to school. Most students will visit with other members of their tutor group and at least 2 other members of staff.

- Dates of visits: between 29 June to 14 July
- Method of transport: school minibus or coach
- Cost: £30 to include transport, accommodation, activities and breakfast.

The date of each tutor group visit will be confirmed once staffing has been finalised, but in the meantime, please can you complete the confirmation that you give your consent for your child to participate in this opportunity (see link at the bottom of the letter).

Information about Spiers Bank House

Spiers Bank House is a centrally heated stone cottage located within the North Yorkshire Moors National Park on the edge of Forestry Commission land. It has been extensively modernised and refurbished to a high standard. There are two dormitories with six bunk beds, an additional dormitory with eight bunk beds and three bathrooms. There is a pay phone for outgoing calls only. Please note: there is no mobile phone signal at Spiers Bank House or in the immediate area.

The address is:

Spiers Bank House
Hartoft End
Rosedale Abbey
Pickering
North Yorkshire
YO18 8EN

The journey to Spiers Bank house is approximately one hour and, once there, the students will be able to store their food in the areas provided, including ample access to freezers and refrigerators. We will not be stopping at a shop on the way.

On the second day the students will participate in a walk from Spiers Bank to the “Forest Cabins” Cropton site where there is a small shop and café, so they may wish to bring a small amount of spending money, although there is no necessity for this.

Recommended clothing and equipment

All students should pack only one small rucksack, or equivalent sized bag, and include:

- Waterproof coat
- One bottom sheet for a single mattress
- Pillow and pillow case
- Sleeping bag
- Jumper/fleece
- Towel
- Appropriate socks
- Toiletries
- Walking boots/shoes
- Lunch box
- Indoor shoes/slippers/trainers
- Nightwear
- A complete change of clothes is ESSENTIAL

There are a range of activities for groups to participate in, which will be decided upon by the trip coordinator depending on the conditions on the day.

Food and Cooking facilities

Students should bring a packed lunch for both days, and whatever they wish to have for their evening meal. Students will still get the opportunity, under staff supervision, to make their own meals from the food they bring. A range of breakfast options will also be provided for the morning.

There are three hob units, three ovens, two larger fridges and a freezer, three sink units and three microwaves. All cutlery, crockery, pans and utensils are provided.

Student responsibilities

The contribution that a residential visit to Spiers Bank House can make to the personal and social development of our students is boundless. It is also an excellent opportunity for teachers to further develop the positive relationships they have with their students. The school hopes that all students who visit Spiers Bank House will behave in an acceptable manner, paying particular regard to the following expectations:

- Clean all items used in the kitchen after each meal
- Help to clean and tidy Spiers Bank House before departure
- Put all litter in bins or put it in a bag/pocket until a bin is available
- Follow staff instructions at all times

Students who are unable to meet these expectations may need to return to Driffield School rather than completing their stay at Spiers Bank House.

In order for your child to participate in the visit, please make the payment of £30.00 through ParentPay and complete the consent by Friday 9 June via the link below: <https://forms.office.com/e/s3q71K1PGU>.

Should you have any questions in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Andrews'. The signature is stylized with a large initial 'D' and a long, sweeping flourish that extends to the right.

Mr D Andrews
Assistant Headteacher and Chairman of Spiers Bank House Trust