



HEADTEACHER: CHARLOTTE SLATTERY
LONDON ROAD, TRENT VALE, STOKE-ON-TRENT, ST4 5NT

TS/hr/Y7 retreat
11th September 2024

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

At St Joseph's College we have a comprehensive retreat programme which offers a range of different retreats throughout a student's time at St Joseph's College. In Year 7, students take part in two different retreats which are both held at Alton Castle.

As part of your child's induction programme to St Joseph's College, the RE Department have organised welcome day retreats at Alton Castle. Alton Castle is our Diocesan Retreat Centre which mostly works with young people aged 9 to 13. A retreat at Alton Castle provides an activity-based experience which uses games, nature trekking, art and IT, to raise self-esteem, build relationships and become more aware of God's presence in their lives.

In June, students will have the opportunity to take part in a Residential Retreat at Alton Castle which offers an expanded programme and different activities for students to take part in. The residential retreat builds on the theme of the day retreat. More information about the residential opportunity will be released in a letter which will be released in due course.

Students who have visited Alton Castle in the past have found the dramatic setting and exciting activities at the Castle a worthwhile and memorable experience. Each Year 7 class will attend Alton Castle on the following days:

- **7KE, 7ER & 7BT– 23rd September 2024**
- **7NN & 7OD– 24th September 2024**

Students will be accompanied by their Form Tutor, myself and other members of staff.

They will leave school at 9:15am after registration and will return between 3:00pm and 3:15pm.

The cost for the trip is: £28 payable via ParentPay. Please note: this is non-refundable. Information on Alton Castle, including the programme can be found at:

<https://www.kenelmyouthtrust.org.uk/altoncastle.html>

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me. We would like every member of Year 7 to attend. If you feel this is not possible for any reason, please either contact myself or Mrs S Shorey (**Head of Year 7**).

Yours sincerely,

Mr T Selby
Lay Chaplain

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