



ST PATRICK'S
— Roman Catholic High School —



THE ST PATRICK'S CENTRE
— of Educational Excellence —

Amazing things happen here

Year 8: Castlerigg Residential Retreat

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are excited to share details of the upcoming Year 8 Retreat to Castlerigg Manor in the Lake District. This retreat is a wonderful opportunity for our students to grow spiritually, reflect on their faith, and engage in activities that promote personal development and a sense of community. Below, we've outlined the key details of the trip, including its aims and purpose.

Location:

Castlerigg Manor is situated in the stunning Lake District, near the town of Keswick. Set amidst picturesque views of the surrounding mountains and lakes, the retreat centre offers an ideal environment for spiritual reflection, relaxation, and connection with nature. The peaceful and scenic setting fosters an atmosphere that encourages quiet contemplation and group bonding.

Aims and Purpose of the Retreat:

1. Spiritual Growth and Reflection:

The retreat provides a unique chance for Year 8 students to deepen their relationship with God and reflect on their faith. Through prayer, group discussions, and quiet time, students will explore aspects of Catholic teaching, faith practices, and how they relate to their own lives. The retreat will also focus on the sacrament of Confirmation, and how pupils in year 8 will soon be making that commitment to their faith.

2. Community Building:

The retreat is designed to help students build stronger relationships with their peers. Through team-building activities and group discussions, they will learn to work together, support each other, and foster a sense of unity and friendship within the school community.

3. Personal Development:

Students will have the chance to reflect on their personal values, challenges, and aspirations. The activities planned aim to promote self-awareness, resilience, and the development of positive attitudes. The retreat will encourage students to think about their personal growth and how they can live out their faith in everyday life.

4. Relaxation and Connection with Nature:

The beautiful natural surroundings at Castlerigg Manor provide a peaceful setting for students to unwind, enjoy outdoor activities, and reconnect with nature. These activities will help students to take a step back from the pressures of everyday life and focus on self-care and reflection.

Due to the popular demand last year, we have booked two residential retreat dates to ensure as many pupils as possible can attend. **There is a maximum of 60 places available for each retreat. If the retreat is over-subscribed, then pupils' attendance and behaviour will be considered when deciding who will be able to attend the retreat.**

Helping every child to be the very best version of themselves

Headteacher: Mrs A Byrne



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56 NEW LANE, ECCLES, MANCHESTER M30 7JJ T-0161 921 2300 E1: enquiries@stpatricksrhigh.co.uk
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The residential retreats will take place on the following dates:

Group 1: Monday 15th December - Wednesday 17th December

Group 2: Wednesday 17th December - Friday 19th December

Group 1 pupils will be leaving school after lunch and will return at around 5pm on Wednesday 17th December. Group 2 will leave at 12:30pm on Wednesday 17th December and will return at around 2:30pm on Friday 19th December.

Due to timings, and possibly traffic, arrangements will need to be made by parents/carers for your child's safe journey home. The school buses will not be available on Friday 19th December when the coach returns at 2.30pm due to school closing at 12pm that day.

We are kindly requesting a voluntary contribution of £86 per pupil. This contribution will go towards the cost of the event and travel, all meals are included at Castlerigg. If we are unable to raise enough funds this may result in the trip being cancelled.

If your child accesses Pupil Premium funding, this trip will be subsidised. You will see the reduced cost when you access Scopay. If you aren't sure whether your child qualifies for Pupil Premium, you can apply via the Salford Free School Meals page here: <https://www.salford.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/free-school-meals/>

If you would like your child to attend this trip, please return the attached reply slip no later than **Friday 14th November**. After this date, we will confirm whether your child has been successful in securing a place and open the Scopay for payment in instalments.

The reply slip can be completed electronically here: <https://forms.office.com/e/m9wJ4V3WX7>

If you have any questions, please email the school and I will get back to you.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs M Wallbank
Head of Religious Education

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Reply slip to be returned to Mrs M Wallbank by Friday 14th November 2025.

This reply slip can be completed electronically here: <https://forms.office.com/e/m9wJ4V3WX7>

Trip Lead: Mrs M Wallbank

I do/do not wish* for my child _____ to attend the Castlerigg Residential Retreat.

I do/not wish* for my child to be filmed or have photos taken whilst on this trip which will be used for display purposes or posted on the school website and/or Twitter.

I understand that arrangements will need to be made for my child's safe journey home on arrival back at school. *

Signed: (parent/guardian)*

*Please delete or check as appropriate.

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