



St. Thomas More

CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

St. Thomas More Catholic Voluntary Academy, Palace Fields, Buxton, Derbyshire, SK17 6AF Headteacher: Mr D Redfern

Dear Parent / Carer,

Y11 Briars Residential – 21st- 23rd April 2023

Y11 are being offered the opportunity to attend a retreat to the Briars. The Briars is a residential retreat centre in Crich, near Matlock. (If you wish to find out more about the Briars then please visit their website (www.ndcys.com)). This trip was introduced last academic year for our KS4 students, and it proved to have a very positive effect on our students, especially those in Y11. The opportunity to pause, reflect and break just before GCSE's begin is so important for the mental health of our students.

The residential will run from **Friday 21st - Sunday 23rd April**. Friday will include a day at Black Rocks in Cromford, near to the Briars, for a day of outdoor activities with **Acclimatise**. (For more information, see their website - www.acclimatize.co.uk). From here, students will then go on to the Briars for a weekend with the Briars team, returning to school by 2:00pm on the Sunday. The full cost of the residential is currently looking to be **£160**. The Briars have also put together the **St Francis of Assisi Fund** in response to the cost of living crisis. This is to help part fund the retreat for **one** of our students. It is especially designed for those who would otherwise struggle to go on retreat, as it is these students who often benefit the most. Please mark on the slip below if you would like your child to be considered for this funding

There is only space for a maximum of 30 students. This smaller group size provides a wonderful atmosphere for the students and gives opportunity for a more tailored programme from the Briars team, something which shone as a huge positive on our last trip. Student attendance on the trip will **not** be first come first served but rather based on behaviour, attitude to learning and attendance.

If your child is interested in attending the residential, please can you complete the form below and hand into the office not later than **Friday 13th January**. The following week, successful students will then be informed and consent forms and details of final payments will be sent home.

God bless and thank you for your continued support, to me and to our students.

Yours faithfully,

Christian Fitzgerald

Lay Chaplain

Y11 Briars Residential 21st- 23rd April 2023 – Expression of Interest

Child Name: _____ Form: _____

☐ I would like to express interest in attending the Y11 Briars Residential 2023.

☐ I would like to express interest in receiving funding from the *St Francis of Assisi Fund*

Parent Name: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____



DIocese OF
NOTTINGHAM

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**St Ralph
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