

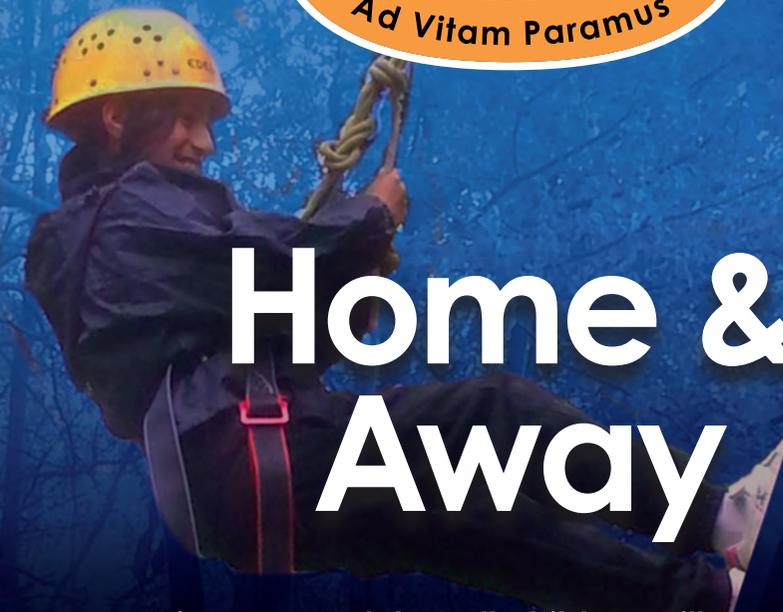
Children should take a suitcase or bag that they are able to carry and parents should not be tempted to over pack. We place photographs and news updates on the Laser giving information to parents about the great time the children are having and if any child is sick or homesick we will contact you immediately and arrange for them to come home. Please allow your child to enjoy this residential experience with your blessing. If you are enthusiastic and happy for them to go then they will be too.



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Home & Away

It is expected that all children will go on our residential trip from Year 1. Children have a wonderful time on the trip getting to know their teachers better and friendships are forged and strengthened.

The Langley Hall Primary Academy motto is "We are Preparing for Life". We passionately believe that it is our duty to fulfil this motto and therefore the activities and learning that we include in our curriculum are regularly examined to assess how effectively they help us to achieve our aims.

There are two very essential life skills that we believe children need to acquire at an early age that have a positive impact upon learning, these are

- 1. The ability to think and act independently and**
- 2. The ability to be resilient**

Whilst we work on developing these life skills all of the time that we are teaching your child in the classroom, so much more can be achieved through our annual residential trip.



This experience provides us with the opportunities to set up challenges and activities not possible during the normal school day and in the normal everyday environment.

If we want children to be able to accept challenge; 'have a go', make mistakes and 'have a go' again, then we need to provide opportunities for this to happen. Through practice, children learn how to cope with failures, seeing them as opportunities for mastery. They learn that effort and learning are keys to success and setbacks should not be feared. This learning enables them to take risks and try new things. By learning these lessons outside of the classroom they then become a valuable asset in the classroom as children become more willing and able to tackle difficult tasks.

As parents we all want to protect our children and show them that we love them by doing things for them. This is absolutely right and proper. However, sometimes this demonstration of love backfires on us as we make children helpless, fearful and timid. We have to get the balance right and our residential trip enables children to do things for themselves that we as parents and protectors would otherwise be tempted to do for them - even though they may be perfectly capable of doing them for themselves.

A resilient child is one who is independent, can problem solve, is optimistic and has good social connections. They have the ability to cope with change and can 'spring back' after a disappointment. They are not afraid to have another go if they fail the first time.

It is expected that all children will go on our residential trip from Year 1. Quite possibly this will be their first time away from home and you may worry that they may not cope. In the months leading up to the trip you can help to prepare them by encouraging them to do small tasks for themselves. For example, putting their own clothes away after wearing or helping to lay the table for dinner. You can also prepare them by allowing them to stay away for a night at a relative's house or with their best friend.



If your child has other issues such as bed wetting, night terrors etc we can discuss this with you to make sure that their needs are met. Sometimes the school residential trip can prompt parents to make a visit to the doctors to get issues sorted out that they may otherwise ignore and allow to continue.

We do not want any child to feel excluded – this is not a positive experience for a child to have at school – and so we make it possible for every child to attend. We spread payments over 8 monthly instalments and for children for whom we are claiming pupil premium, a 50% discount is applied.



Children have a wonderful time on the trip. They get to know their teachers better and friendships are forged and strengthened. You will notice that they are different upon their return: more independent, confident and energetic – although when they get off the coach you may not see this immediately! They will be tired and may even have fallen asleep on the way home because they have had such a fun packed experience.

Most of the humanities work for the term is based around the residential trip. Whilst away we simply continue with the children's learning in a different environment. It becomes our outdoor classroom or 'forest school'.