



Outwood Academy Kirkby

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Lead Principal: Mr A Scruby

Friday 22nd May 2026

Dear Parent / Carer

RE: Year 9 Graduation and trip to Sherwood Pines

We are absolutely delighted to share some wonderful news with you. Outwood Academy Kirkby will be holding its first ever Year 9 Graduation ceremony on **Tuesday 23rd June from 5pm - 6pm** in our Performance Hall. As your child is graduating, you are also invited to this event to celebrate with us.

This event is to commemorate and highlight the fantastic work students in year 9 have been doing and is a recognition of their effort, attitude and behaviour. Finishing year 9 is a key milestone; it marks the end of Key Stage 3 and serves as a benchmark of success for students before they begin their Key Stage 4 journeys with us in September. In addition, students who graduate from Key Stage 3 are students who have demonstrated our core values of kindness, pride, resilience and positive conduct every day. As part of our Praising Stars process, we regularly review students' effort grades to ensure that all students are making the most of the opportunities available to them and preparing positively for the transition into Key Stage 4, as they begin their guided pathway courses with confidence and determination.

Throughout this Praising Stars process, students have engaged in a range of learning experiences designed to build their skills, confidence, and readiness for the next stage of their education and for their future. We are incredibly proud of how our students have embraced challenges, supported one another, and represented the academy with respect and integrity. These achievements reflect both their hard work and the strong partnership between our dedicated staff and supportive families.

The criteria for their graduation level can be seen below and students now know which classification they will be graduating with as this has been shared with students this week.

Graduation Level	Criteria
Bronze award:	All E3 Effort Grades or above.
Silver award:	At least 7 E1 Effort Grades and zero E3s.
Gold award:	At least 12 E1 Effort Grades and zero E3s.
Platinum award:	All E1 Effort Grades

If you wish to attend the Year 9 Graduation Ceremony at Outwood Academy Kirkby, please complete the link below by **Friday 13th June at 3pm**. This is so we can finalise numbers and make final arrangements for the evening.

Graduation Ceremony Consent Form: <https://forms.gle/K882kRi2jvhd12k6>

The other exciting news to share with you, is that following the Graduation Ceremony on Tuesday 23rd June, students who graduate are invited to then attend a **reward trip to Sherwood Pines the following day on Wednesday 24th June**. Students have been spoken to in assembly this week about this.

The trip will take place during the academy day time and will be expected to be in school from the beginning of the school day as normal.

The day will consist of two options available to students:

Option A: Taking part in only the activities at Sherwood Pines. This would include entry to Sherwood Pines, orienteering resources, golf and picnic blankets to enjoy. There would be no charge for this option and it would be fully funded by Outwood Academy Kirkby including transport.

Option B: This would include everything set above for Option A, but also the *GoApe Treetop Adventure Plus* course which we have managed to get at an amazing price of just £16.85 per person.

This option will be offered on a first-come-first-served basis as we have limited places available for this option. There are only 50 places available for this.

Students will require a packed lunch on the day, but if your child is in receipt of Free School Meals, we will be providing this on the day for them.

In addition, students will be required to wear full academy PE kit on the day.

Please complete the reply slip below which asks for your permission for your child to attend, medical information, emergency contact information and also please indicate which option (Option A / Option B) your child wishes to do on the day.

Sherwood Pines Consent Form: <https://forms.gle/HWVNkkgafnaAsoGsD8>

Parents will need to log into iPay to make the payment for £16.85 for students wishing to do **Option B** which covers the *GoApe* activities on the day.

The full balance of £16.85 will be required on **Monday 1st June** for students wishing to do **Option B**.

If your child is not currently registered on iPay, please contact our Finance Department on finance@kirkby.outwood.com to request iPay account details for payment.

We look forward to you celebrating with us at the Graduation Ceremony on Tuesday 23rd June and we also look forward to taking your child on the celebratory rewards trip on Wednesday 24th June to Sherwood Pines.

With warmest wishes,

A. L. Corah

Mrs A Corah

Associate Assistant Principal in Deep Experience