

September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Southampton University Research Trip

We are delighted to offer your child the chance to visit the University of Southampton on Wednesday 18th October 2023. Your son/daughter has expressed an interest in the Higher Project Qualification (HPQ) and/or the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), which means that research experiences such as this will be an invaluable opportunity to start gathering relevant literature. This visit will allow students to work in an academic environment and to experience some aspects of university life for the day; a unique environment that they may not have considered exploring previously.

The University of Southampton considers itself to be 'a research-intensive university and a founding member of the prestigious Russell Group,' and I would encourage both students and parents to access their website for further information about the institute and opportunities to be found there. The Russell Group represents the leading universities in the UK, and I would recommend exploring as many different universities in this group as possible, so that you can see what they have to offer and possible summer school opportunities.

Please see: www.southampton.ac.uk

The details of the trip are as follows:

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|------------------------|--|
| Date: | Wednesday 18 th October, 2023 |
| Venue: | The University of Southampton |
| Transport: | Coach |
| Departure time: | 7.00am (meet at the bus bay for 6.45am) |
| Time of return: | 5.30 pm approx. |
| Dress: | School uniform |
| Lunch: | Students can bring a packed lunch, but there will be an opportunity for the group to buy something from the university facilities. |
| Cost: | £24.00 (by Wednesday 4 th October) <u>*Please ensure that students have a USB or other such method of saving work throughout the day, as this will avoid paying to print on the day and for more thorough thinking to take place on our return. If there are any potential problems here, please do let me know.</u> |

This trip will be covered by school insurance and accompanied by members of staff.

Scopay is now the preferred method of payment for all trips, visits and school activities. If you visit www.scopay.com you will see payment details. If you have mislaid your Scopay login details, please call Pupil Services. Should you still wish to pay by cash or cheque (cheques should be made payable to *Rayleigh Schools Trust*) and handed into Pupil Services. If you have any Scopay queries regarding this trip, please contact Mrs A Twomey (atwomey@sweynepark.com). Consent forms to be handed into Pupil Services once payment has been made.

If there are any financial difficulties, please contact the Headteacher, Mrs Dines, in the strictest confidence.

If you have any queries concerning the trip, please do not hesitate to contact me. I look forward to sharing this exciting experience with such a dedicated group of researchers.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Jenny Clements
EPQ and HPQ Coordinator
Supra-curricular Coordinator