

27th October 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Year 7 National Space Centre Visit – Friday 13th March 2026

We are delighted to inform you that a school trip has been organised for our Year 7 students to visit the **National Space Centre in Leicester**. This will be an excellent opportunity for students to enhance their understanding of space and science in an engaging, hands-on and inclusive environment. The trip will also take place during National Science week, where will be exploring a range of science themes throughout the week.

The trip is planned for **Friday 13th of March 2026**. This will be during the school day, with an estimated time of return to school at about 5pm. Further information regarding timings of the day and logistics will be sent out nearer the time.

During the visit, students will:

- Participate in the **“Surviving Mars” workshop**, exploring what life might be like on the Red Planet.
- Attend the **“Journey Through Space” planetarium show**, offering a fascinating insight into the universe pitched at a KS3 level.
- Explore the wide range of exhibits at the Space Centre, with activities and competitions.

The total cost of the trip will be £32 per student to cover the cost of entrance to the Space Centre, coach travel and both exhibitions. As this is a curriculum-related trip and is during the school day it has been planned on the understanding that all parents of students participating are prepared to meet voluntarily the costs involved. Unfortunately, if insufficient voluntary contributions are received then the trip may have to be cancelled. If you are currently receiving benefits and at this time, find it difficult to fully support your child on this trip, please contact the Student Operations Assistant on pupilpremium@ashbyschool.org.uk, as funds may be available to assist you.

Should a student cancel their place on a school trip, and a replacement cannot be found, then they will lose any payments made. If a trip placement is cancelled through illness, then each case will be considered on an individual basis.

The cost of the trip will cover:

- Entrance to the National Space Centre
- Both the workshop and planetarium show
- Coach travel to and from Leicester

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Our method of payment is via the school's secure online payment facility, WisePay, which can be accessed from our website www.ashbyschool.org.uk. You must only use the WisePay account for the student who is attending the trip. In the case of twins/triplets, you must use a separate WisePay account for each child. An initial deposit of £10 per child is required for the initial booking by Friday the 14th of November at 4pm. The final payment will be due on Friday the 12th of December.

Unfortunately, we can only take a maximum of 180 students and where trips are over-subscribed, all students' names will go into a draw.

If your child has a medical condition, it is **your responsibility** to ensure they have any medication they require/may require. The school would look to parents to make certain that all medicines are 'in date' eg. inhalers / epipens etc, otherwise it may result in your child not being able to go on the trip. If you do not disclose their medical condition, you will be expected to collect your child in the event they become ill and to pay any expenses incurred as a result.

We believe this trip will be an inspiring and memorable experience for our Year 7 students, and we very much hope that your child will be able to join us.

For any inquiries, please contact SpaceCentre@ashbyschool.org.uk

Yours sincerely

The Ashby School Science Team