

Gifted and Talented Children

What do we mean by 'gifted and talented'? Dorset LEA defines very able and gifted children as:

... children who have ability or abilities beyond the large majority of the children in the school and who consequently require more challenging teaching and opportunities.... Their potential will be shown in any or all of a wide range of contexts such as different learning styles, creativity or leadership.

(Dorset LEA Policy for Very Able and Gifted Children, Feb 2003)

All schools are now required to identify their gifted and talented children, and ensure that their needs are met through supplementing the curriculum with additional opportunities and enrichment activities.



Leeson House Field Studies Centre

Here at Leeson House, we provide a range of enrichment courses designed specifically for these gifted and talented children. Courses generally run over weekends, although some may take place during the week. The price of each course includes accommodation, food, tuition and most materials.

The courses are open to children from any school, but we do ask that the child's school complete an endorsement confirming that they would be suited to the intensiveness and subject matter of the course.

The content of the courses is intended not only to support and enrich the National Curriculum, but also to extend outside of it into other areas. All the teaching staff are experts in their field, and with working with able, gifted and talented children.

Leeson House has been providing residential experiences for children for many years, and the staff here are practised in easing the worries of those children away from home for the first time, along with caring for all who stay with us. Where possible, friends are put together in bedrooms, providing it has been requested on the application form.

Places are limited, so please book early to avoid any disappointment! Feel free to phone the centre on 01929-422126 if you have any queries or concerns.

The Dorset programme for gifted and talented pupils offers you a unique opportunity to be part of the stimulating residential course:

"Project Zeppelin"

A "scrapheap challenge" style course using electronics, physics and problem solving skills for students who will be in Yrs 7 to 9



**At Leeson House Field Studies Centre, Swanage
Friday 26th to Sunday 28th November 2010**

£140 all inclusive

Course Director: John Winder
www.smugglershole.com



Project Zeppelin

Those marvelous men and their flying machines have captured the imaginations of people since time began.

With a combination of modern science and industrial revolution technology, the group will design and make their own airships to carry spy cameras into Leeson House.

Starting with a tutorial into the physics and electronics of airship technology each pupil will use basic materials to create their own remote controlled flying machine in a “*scrapheap challenge*” style event to complete an assault course and bring back intelligence photographs of an enemy position.

Full-scale airships have been around since the late 1700s and are still used today for strategic and specialist applications.

More able students will enjoy putting into practice weird and wonderful designs whereas those who feel less confident can stay along more conventional paths.

Whatever the design, the success will come down to understanding of the principles, careful engineering and mathematics.

The course starts at 5pm on Friday 26th and finishes at 4pm on Sunday 28th November 2010. There will be a presentation of the work carried out during the course at 3pm to which all are welcome.

You will need to bring

This course is mostly classroom based although please bring some outdoor clothing and footwear for recreational sessions outside. A full kit list will be sent 1 month beforehand.

Course Director is John Winder

John Winder has been developing hands on science and history courses for 7 years for large residential centres. The aim of all his work is around making education exciting and memorable, often with explosive results! With a background in physics, pyrotechnics and a love of historical machines and techniques, he has built cannons at different locations across the UK for a variety of courses and research purposes. He currently works at Smuggler’s Hole, a project dedicated to making learning fun for all ages with the theme of maritime crafts and demonstrations.

Leeson House Field Studies Centre

Leeson is an historic house situated on the Isle of Purbeck in Dorset - an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The local landscape encompasses hills, heath and the Jurassic Coastline – a World Heritage Site – all derived from the local and wide-ranging geology. Sites such as Corfe Castle, Arne Nature Reserve and the Purbeck Hills all provide inspirational settings for both physical and academic activities.

Facilities include 2½ hectares of ecologically managed grounds, a games field, classroom, laboratory and library, and a large games room. Accommodation is in dormitories, with separate shower and toilet facilities. Staff will be resident close by in the house during all overnight courses.

Leeson works within Dorset LEA’s guidelines for safety during offsite and residential visits. All staff are checked via the Criminal Records Bureau, as are any visiting teaching and support staff. All security measures have been taken to ensure the safety of students whilst staying at Leeson House.