

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:

“HIGH TECH SPIES”

**Maths, electronics, codes and communications.
For students in school years 6, 7 and 8.**



At Leeson House Field Studies Centre, Swanage

Friday 27th to Sunday 29th May 2011

£140 all inclusive

**Course Directors and Tutors:
Adrian Dening and Tone Townsend**



“High Tech Spies”

A practical two-day course that explores the mysterious world of radio bugs, spy transmissions and encrypted messages.

Participants will learn about Electro-Magnetic Waves, explore the theory of electronics using professional test equipment and become expert at understanding encryption techniques – the different ways of coding a message so that it can only be understood by the intended recipient.....or can it?

The learning is reinforced through practical team-working exercises where students are sent out on secret missions within the grounds of Leeson House and given the opportunity to put their new-found covert communications skills to full use.

The course runs from 5pm on Friday 27th to 3pm on Sunday 29th May 2011. There will be a presentation by the pupils at 2pm to display the work done during the course. All are welcome to attend.

For further information, please contact the Course Director, Adrian Dening on 07834 922858 (evenings) or via email to courses@AdrianDening.com.

Adrian Dening & Tone Townsend

Adrian Dening has been directing electronics and space science courses for gifted and talented children since the mid 1980's. His interest in the subjects began at school, where he became a licensed Radio Amateur and enthusiastic astronomer. As a member of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development, Adrian also offers courses covering a range of other science-related topics, software applications and

communications skills. He is a registered instructor for the Amateur Radio Licence Scheme through the Radio Society of Great Britain.

Tone Townsend is completing her PGCE teaching qualification and holds a degree in industrial ceramics. She has actively pursued interests in art and science since school-days. Tone is an enthusiastic Amateur Radio operator and astronomer. This experience enables Tone to provide a unique range of her own courses exploring links between art and technology, actively encouraging students to broaden their range of thinking.

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.