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THROUGH GOD, WE CARE

## CHESTER ZOO — THURSDAY 20TH JULY 2023

## Dear Parent/Carer

Thank you for your support with the reply slip and payment for your child in relation to attending Chester Zoo. I hope your child is looking forward to the visit and ask that you talk through the arrangements for the day with them.

- It is not necessary for students to wear school uniform, but we ask that appropriate clothing and sensible footwear is worn, and that the students are prepared for the unpredictable nature of the weather. Can I reinforce Mrs Scott-Herron's previous messages, that cycling shorts cannot be worn on non-uniform days.
- If the weather is hot, appropriate high factor sun protection should be applied, with the recommendation to take a hat or cap with them.
- Students will arrive at school at normal time, reporting to the Ball Hall at 8.30am for registration and key information sharing.
- We will be leaving at 9am and returning by the end of the school day.
- Students will require a packed lunch or money to buy lunch at the Zoo. If your child is a recipient of free school meals, a packed lunch will be available for them should they wish to have one.
- It is at the discretion of parents as to whether the students bring additional spending money with them.
- Students may bring a camera or use their mobile phones to take pictures of the animals, but it will be the sole responsibility of the student to keep all possessions taken on the trip safe.
- Please ensure that staff are aware of any medication that is needed for your child when on the trip and any relevant medical information is passed on to staff.

Further specific information and guidance from the Zoo:

 To ensure all our visitors have the best experience possible we expect all of our visitors, including school groups, to behave in a way that doesn't disrupt our animals or negatively impact other visitors to the zoo.



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• Safety barriers: the barriers are there for your safety and to give our animals the space they need.

Please do not cross the safety barriers!

• Feeding animals: all our animals are on carefully prepared and balanced diets. Please do not feed

any of our animals.

Noise levels: our animals can be sensitive to high levels of noise. Please be mindful and do not

shout or play music around the zoo.

• Unwanted verbal/physical behaviour: threatening, abusive or insulting language and aggressive

behaviour is not permitted at Chester Zoo.

• Staff may speak to students if they feel their behaviour is not appropriate and the group leader

may be contacted if there are no supervising adults close by.

• Instances of unacceptable behaviour will be immediately reported and our Security team and

Conservation Education and Engagement team will take appropriate action. In extreme circumstances this can lead to whole school groups being asked to leave the zoo premises. We will

also report poor behaviour to head teachers and school governors in writing and we reserve the

right to refuse future admission to schools who have behaved in a disruptive manner during a visit,

spoiling the enjoyment of our visitors.

• Students will need to be supervised by an adult when accessing indoor houses and walkthroughs.

School staff will be a high presence around the Zoo, will have meeting points and will have

scheduled slots where they will supervise students in order to access the indoor areas.

Students will be asked to follow the above guidance and rules when at Chester Zoo, and should there be concerns in relation to student conduct, arrangements will be made for their return to school. If you

require any further information, please do not hesitate to ask.

Have a lovely summer.

Yours faithfully

Mr J Leonard

**Assistant Headteacher**