



Blackfen School for Girls

Raising aspirations - releasing potential

Headteacher Carrie Senior MA (Oxon) NPQH

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Dear Parents/Carers,

March 2026

DISCOVER 2026 – Wednesday 15th July, London Zoo £10

As part of the Discover 2026 programme for KS3 students, your child has been selected to attend the trip to the London Zoo on Wednesday 15th July 2026.

Students are not required to wear school uniform for the trip but should ensure they are dressed appropriately (i.e. no shorts above mid-thigh/ripped jeans or crop tops and no false nails or lashes). If students decide to bring electrical items with them, the school will not take any responsibility if anything is lost or damaged during the trip.

Activities on the day

Students will spend the day exploring the Zoo and coming face to face with over 750 tropical species - from tiny insects, fish, and reptiles to fully-grown lions, gorillas, and giraffes. The students must always stay with a member of staff.

Transport

Train and tube. We should have a group travel ticket but please ensure that students have a valid ZIP card, if they don't have a ZIP card then please ensure that they have an oyster card with them that has at least £10 travel credit. There is about a 40-minute walk from the Tube Station to the Zoo.

Timings of the trip

Students are expected to meet at Sidcup Train Station by 9:15am. The train departs at 9:33am. They will return to Sidcup Train Station at approximately 4:15pm where they will be dismissed.

If any student has not arrived at the station by 9:30am we will need to leave without them. There will be senior staff members at the station who will then escort them to the school site.

Cost of the trip

The cost of the visit will be **£10.00**, that includes entry to the zoo, and the **deadline for payment is Friday 1st May 2026**. We are now a cashless school, so payments must therefore be made via Wisepay (our on-line payment portal). You can access our school payment system by:

- Wisepay website – Please visit Wisepay.co.uk and enter Blackfen School for Girls in the Parent Log in Area.
- Wisepay App for mobile phones - This is available for parents to download. Please note the Blackfen organisation code to download the App is 66447546. All this information can be found on our school website (blackfenschoolforgirls.co.uk).



Pupil premium funding can be made available for eligible students to support participation. To access this, please contact the school via email to finance@blackfen.bexley.sch.uk so that help may be offered. A small contribution to the cost of the trip will be expected.

In cases of financial hardship, please contact the school via email o finance@blackfen.bexley.sch.uk, so that help may be offered. Even if help is provided, a contribution towards the cost of the trip will be expected.

All monies paid for the Discover Activities are non-refundable. This is because we must pay for the venues, providers, equipment etc. in advance. Your child's participation in any activities is at the school's discretion and decisions to revoke places on activities may be made on the basis of poor behaviour and with consideration of safeguarding risk- both to your child and to other participants and staff.

What students are required to bring for the day:

- Oyster or ZIP card
- A packed lunch (the food is very expensive in the Zoo)
- Suitable shoes for walking (trainers or converse)
- A bottle of water (there are refill stations)
- Sun screen
- A hat
- A waterproof coat depending on the weather
- Spending money for the giftshop or ice cream
- A fully charged mobile phone that is capable of making calls (has credit)

Medication

Specific medical conditions will be advised to me as the trip leader prior to your child attending, however if you wish to discuss this further, please contact me on the school number 0208 303 1887.

Having read and understood all the information about this trip, and made your payment via Wisepay, you have agreed for your child to take part in all activities outlined. The school will continue to use all medical and contact information that you provided upon admission for this activity/trip if and where required.

If you have any queries in connection with this visit, please contact me as soon as possible.

Yours faithfully,

J Tregenna

Ms. J. Tregenna
London Zoo Trip Leader
Numeracy Coordinator, Mathematics