

IOW Briefing Meeting

Friday 18th September 2026





Great Berry Primary School

Year 6 Residential 2027



Isle of Wight

May 24th - 28th 2027



Meeting Objective

Provide an overview of the
Isle of Wight residential trip,
including costs and timings



Agenda

- The Isle of Wight Experience Company
- Transport
- Accommodation
- Price of trip and payment schedule
- General information
- Preparing your child
- Itinerary
- Questions



The Company

- Isle of Wight Experience
(www.isleofwightexperience.co.uk)
- Established 1992.
- We have used the company 21 times with 4 different schools - over 1100 children - but not all at once!
- Will be IOW Trip number 12 for Great Berry
- Up to 30 different schools on Island every week during summer term.
- Based on Island - 2 visits during stay and 24hour emergency phone line

Transport

- Coaches stay with group all week – coaches have seatbelts and air con
- Ferry from Portsmouth to Fishbourne
- Wightlink Ferries



Accommodation:

Hotel Maria Sandown

- Normal hotel - used by the public at weekends and during holidays
- Schools have sole occupancy of hotel during stay - front doors locked at night
- 2-5 children in rooms - all ensuite.
- Full board - cooked breakfast, packed lunch and evening meal
- Children choose from menu (provided in advance)
- Hotel located in Sandown 10 metres from beach
- Will be 11th time GB have used this hotel

Hotel Maria - Sandown



Price

- Mon to Fri 5-day 4-night trip.
- Cost is about £470 (£450 in 2026)
- Everything included: coach and ferry travel, accommodation, food – full board, entrance fees and insurance
- Only extra cost will be children's spending money
- £50 deposit before 23rd October
- 3 further payments of £140.00 (27th Nov 2026, 26th Feb 2027 and 30th April 2027)
- All payments via SchoolsBuddy (can pay in one go)
- School able to help with payments for some children using pupil premium allocation.

Other Information

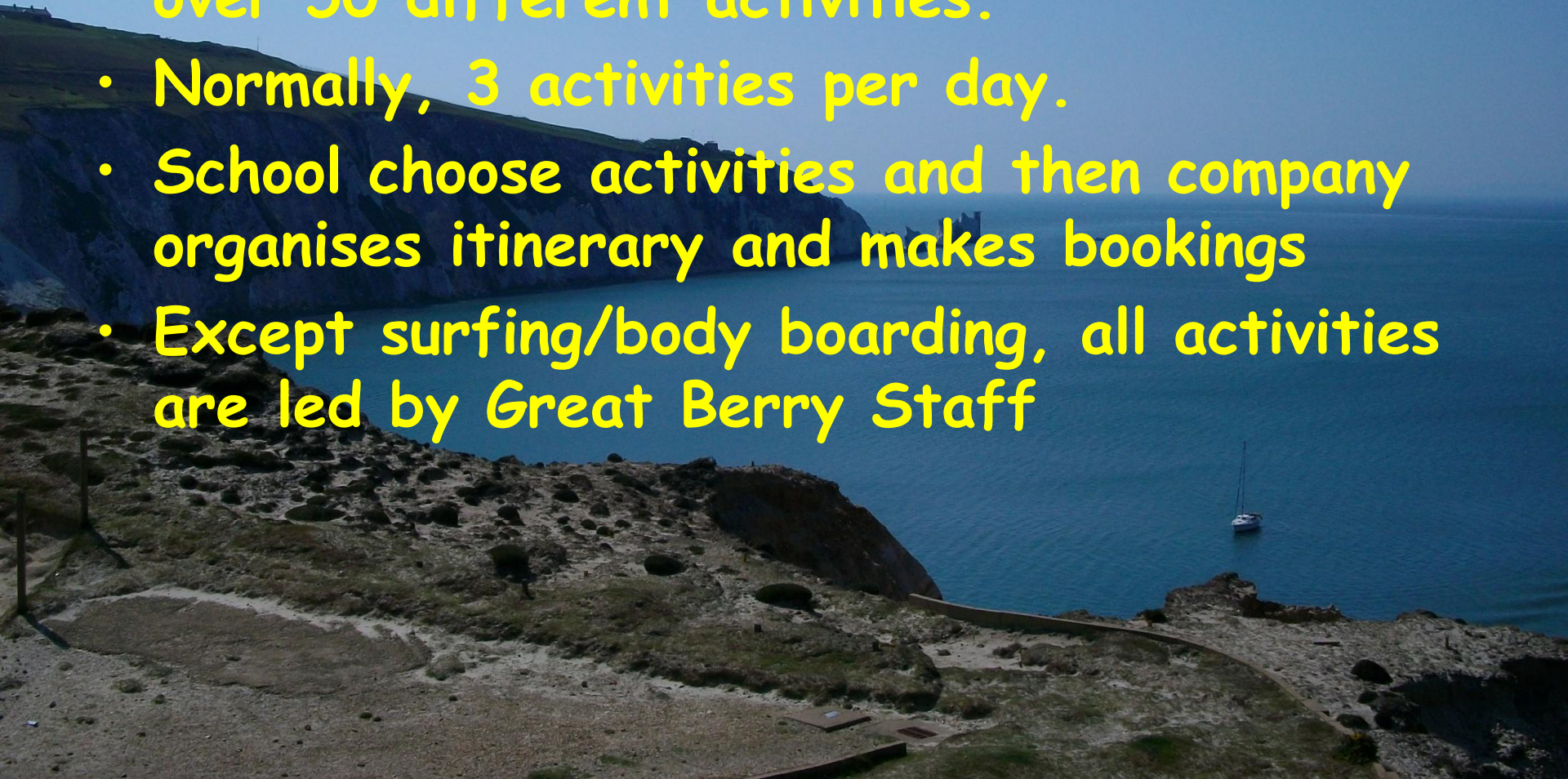
- I will go over on a pre-visit at Easter to meet with the hotel management
- School sent all relevant information and risk assessments
- All IOW Experience staff, hoteliers and coach drivers DBS checked.
- Full briefing for parents and children on Friday 30th April 2027 at 2.00pm
- Adult : Pupil Ratio of 1:10 max (Mr Neal, Miss Curno and Mr Pye confirmed so far)
- Regular updates via Twitter

Preparing Your Child

- The trip is 5 days and 4 nights
- They have already done some preparation through attending Bradwell last year
- Understandably, on occasions, the children will miss you and miss being at home
- We want to build up their resilience to manage these feelings so they can fully enjoy the trip
- It is also another stepping stone to prepare them for secondary school opportunities
- Before the trip, staying overnight with friends or extended stays with other family members is a good idea
- Talk to your child positively about the trip

Itinerary

- Chosen by school from brochure containing over 50 different activities.
- Normally, 3 activities per day.
- School choose activities and then company organises itinerary and makes bookings
- Except surfing/body boarding, all activities are led by Great Berry Staff



DRAFT ITINERARY

Hotel: Hotel Maria - Sandown (we will have sole occupancy)
Coaches: Mil-Ken Travel
Staff: Mr Neal, Miss Curno and Mr Pye (confirmed so far)

Monday 24th

7.30am Arrive at School
8.00am Depart School
12.40pm Wightlink Ferry (Portsmouth to Fishbourne) - Lunch on Ferry
2.30pm Monkey Haven - Primate Rescue Centre
5.30pm Arrive at Hotel
6.30pm Dinner
Eve: Beach Activities (weather permitting)

Tuesday 25th

8.00am Breakfast
10.00am Blackgang Chine
3.30pm Beach afternoon and glass blowing demonstrations at Glory Art Glass
6.30pm Dinner
7.30pm Crazy Dino Golf on Shanklin Seafront

Wednesday 26th

8.00am	Breakfast
10.00am	Osborne House
2.00pm	Dino Isle in Sandown (talk & museum visit)
6.30pm	Dinner
8.00pm	Bowling - Ryde Superbowl

Thursday 27th

8.00am	Breakfast
10.00am	Alum Bay Sweet Demo followed by a visit to the Needles
3.00pm	Wightwater Sports - Surfing/Body Boarding
6.30pm	Dinner
Eve:	Disco at Hotel

Friday 28th

8.00am	Breakfast
9.15am	Leave Hotel
10.20pm	Wightlink Ferry (Fishbourne to Portsmouth)
2.30pm	Approximate time we arrive back at school

Breakfast, lunch and dinner are provided by the hotel.



















Detailed Briefing Meeting:

Friday 30th April 2026

