

Aspiration  
Respect  
Endeavour

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Roding Valley  
HIGH SCHOOL

17th December 2021

Dear Parent / Guardian,

Year 12 biology trip to the L'Oreal Young Scientist Centre

We would like to offer year 12 pupils the opportunity to visit the L'Oreal Young Scientist Centre, part of the Royal Institution <https://www.rigb.org/education/loreal-young-scientist-centre/programmes/bacterial-evolution> to complete a workshops that links directly to the A-level syllabus.

The workshop will look at the continual struggle between bacterial pathogens and their hosts provides an illustration of evolution in action, driven by changes in the bacterial DNA. Students use restriction enzyme digests and gel electrophoresis to analyse the DNA and additional activities are included to reinforce learning about DNA, restriction enzymes and evolution. At the end of the workshop students look at the DNA evidence, decide what advice to give their colleagues at the scene of the outbreak and whether their outbreak samples need further investigation.

The visit will take place on Friday 1st April with students leaving school at 8:30am and returning to school by 3:30.

We will be travelling to and from the venue by underground so students will need to bring their oyster cards or a contactless card to pay for travel with sufficient credit to pay for the return journey into zone 1. Any students who wishes to get off at a tube station other than Loughton will need to receive written permission from parents via email.

The trip will cost a total of £25.00 which is payable through ParentPay. This needs to be paid by Monday 24th January to secure your child place on the trip. This is a voluntary contribution, should you feel that, for financial reasons, you are unable to fund all or part of the trip, please contact [finance@rodingvalley.net](mailto:finance@rodingvalley.net). We must emphasise that if we do not receive enough of the voluntary contributions and the trip is financially non-viable, it will be cancelled.

Students will need to be in full school uniform and will need to provide their own lunch as there is nowhere to buy lunch on site. Please complete the online consent form as soon as possible, the deadline for completion is Monday 24th January 2021. It has been sent to you via Evolve.

If you have any questions about the trip, please do contact me at [dharris@rodingvalley.net](mailto:dharris@rodingvalley.net).

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Harris

STEM Co-ordinator

Mr Poovilingham

Head of Science

Mr Mammen

Senior Deputy Head Teacher

