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| **Diocese of East Anglia** | **Diocesan Youth Office****21 Upgate, Poringland, Norwich, NR14 7SH****Telephone: 01508 486236** **Email:** **dys@rcdea.org.uk** |  |

Dear Parents

We are looking forward to welcoming your son or daughter to the Ignite Festival on 29th - 30th April held at Sacred Heart School, Sacred Heart School, Sporle Road, Swaffham, PE37 7HL.

The following is information that you might find useful.

**About**

The Ignite Festival is a camping youth event run by the Youth Service of the Roman Catholic Diocese of East Anglia for those in Year 8 and upwards. Bishop Peter has asked that everyone planning to be confirmed comes to the Ignite Festival as part of their Confirmation preparation, not as an optional extra.

The Festival aims to bring together a weekend of faith and entertainment including talks, live music, workshops and prayer. Some of our speakers and performers are internationally acclaimed and we are privileged that they are able to be with us.

Although we want to create a ‘festival atmosphere’, there are strictly no alcohol or illegal drugs allowed on site, and separate sleeping areas for male and female. In addition to group leaders, there is a team of adults (with DBS checks) on hand to ensure the weekend runs smoothly. This includes qualified First Aiders and people on night security. The event is planned is consultation with the Diocesan Safeguarding Administrator.

The day after the festival (Bank Holiday Monday 1st May), there is the option of doing the Pilgrimage Walk to Walsingham (a coach will take us to a start point approximately 5 miles from Walsignham). We then join with the Diocesan Pilgrimage. In past years over a hundred young people have taken part in the Pilgrimage Walk.

**Booking and Transport**

If your son or daughter is coming as part of a group, please ask your group leader (usually a Confirmation Catechist or Parish Youth Group Leader) to include you when making the group booking. Your group leader may also be organising group transport and allocation of tents – do please liaise with them. If you are coming as an individual you can book directly. To book, please go to [www.ignitefestival.co.uk](http://www.ignitefestival.co.uk) and click on ‘Tickets’.

**Cost**

Ticket prices are as follows:

Weekend £32

Weekend + Walk £35 (includes a coach to walk start point and packed lunch).

We do also have Day Passes available for either Saturday or Sunday. However, we highly recommend coming for the whole weekend. Feedback over the past few years has taught us that those who come for the whole weekend rather than just a day have a much more profound experience, as the weekend is designed to take people on a journey.

Many parishes are willing to pay for their young people to come to the Ignite Festival.

**Kit List**

A full kit list is available to download from our website and is also copied below

**Food and Dietary Requirements**

All provided food will be free from nuts and fish, and there will be vegetarian options available. If you have other dietary requirements, please contact us. There is also a tuck shop onsite.

**Drop Off and Pick Up Times**

Drop off is from 1400 on Saturday 29th April to allow time to pitch tents before starting at 1600.

The final talk will end by 2100 on Sunday 30th April. This is a really important session as it brings together the whole weekend and invites our young people to commit themselves afresh. After that we have a celebration disco until 2230.

Because of the late finish we welcome everyone to stay until the Monday morning (1st May) and enjoy the atmosphere! Then after breakfast your son or daughter can be picked up from 9am from Swaffham, or we encourage them to do the pilgrimage walk to Walsingham and be picked up in the afternoon from the Grounds surrounding the Slipper Chapel (NR22 6AS).

**Parental Consent Form**

Templates are available to download from the website.. If you are coming as part of a group, it is the responsibility of the group leader to collect and hold parental consent forms for the duration of the weekend.

**Further Information**Please visit our website [www.ignitefestival.co.uk](http://www.ignitefestival.co.uk) for further information including a FAQs section

If you need any further help, please don’t hesitate to contact:

Hamish MacQueen, Director of Diocesan Youth Service: dys@rcdea.org.uk Tel. 07812004934

Ciaran Losasso, Ignite Team Leader: igniteteam@rcdea.org.uk Tel. 07769315031

The above numbers will also be monitored throughout the Festival, although your first point of contact about any concerns during the weekend would usually be son or daughter’s group leader.

Hoping and praying for good weather!

God bless,

The Ignite Team

**KIT LIST**

**Tent** (Please note under 18s, over 18s, male and female are not allowed to share tents unless they are family members)

**Sleeping bag**

(We have a limited number of the tents and sleeping bags available to lend on a first come first served basis – please get in touch if you need to borrow anything)

**Camping mat / airbed**

**Blanket** in case of cold weather

**Torch**

**Clothes** (including raincoats etc. in case the weather is bad)

**Personal Toiletries**

**Cushion** (to sit on during sessions)

**Camping chair** (if you want to sit around outside)

**Personal toiletries**

**Baby wipes / dry shampoo** available from Boots, Superdrug etc. (showers are very limited).

**Money** (there will be a tuck shop)

**Things NOT to bring: Camping Stoves (food is provided), pen knives, alcohol**