



**Ready, Respectful, Resilient**

Headteacher: Mrs T Price BA (Hons) MA Ed

6 February 2026

Dear Parent / Carers,

We are pleased to inform you that your child has been **selected** to take part in the Higher Horizons **Rollercoaster Challenge**, an exciting STEM competition for Year 8 students. Selection for this opportunity is based on students' **strong Design and Technology and ICT skills**, as well as their confidence and ability in presenting.

The project will take place over **two days**:

- **Day 1: Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2026** – in school. Students will explore the science behind how rollercoasters work and use specialist software to design and build a realistic virtual rollercoaster.
- **Day 2: A visit to Keele University on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2026**, where students will present their work to judges, take part in a physics workshop and attend a campus tour.

Students are required to wear their full uniform and to bring a packed lunch; however, they may also wish to bring a small amount of money to use in the campus shop.

There is **no cost** to parents /carers as the trip is fully funded by James Bateman and Higher Horizons.

This is a valuable opportunity for students to develop their creativity and understanding of physics, engineering and computing.

***Please tick the consent box listed on Arbor under: Rollercoaster Challenge.***

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours Faithfully

**Mrs Perkin**

**Year 8 Progress Leader**