

The Gilbert School



SBA/sma
October 2026

Part of the Alpha Trust

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Clip n Climb - Wednesday, 27th January 2027

We are pleased to offer students the opportunity to attend a climbing event at Colchester Clip n Climb on **Wednesday, 27th January**.

Following discussions with the venue, they are able to accommodate up to 40 children in the climbing arena at any one time. To ensure the evening runs smoothly and safely, the centre has recommended operating with groups of 20 students every 30 minutes, as this is the format they use regularly and with which their staff are most experienced.

The sessions will be organised as follows:

- Group 1: Arrive at 4:00pm climb from 4:30pm to 5:30pm.
- Group 2: Arrive at approximately 4:30pm, climb from 5:00pm to 6:00pm.
- Subsequent groups will follow the same pattern throughout the evening.

Using this arrangement, the venue can accommodate 120 students across six sessions, with the final session finishing at approximately 8:00pm.

If more than 120 students apply for a place, spaces will be allocated using a lottery system to ensure the process is fair for all applicants. Once places have been allocated, successful students will be invited to sign-up for a specific timed session. This will allow students to choose, where possible, a session attended by their friends.

Please note that each session is limited to 20 students, and once a session reaches capacity no further places will be available in that time slot. Students will be supervised throughout the event by both school staff and centre staff. However, parents/carers will be responsible for ensuring students are collected promptly at the end of their allocated session, as students will need to leave the venue once their climbing session has finished due to capacity restrictions at the venue.

The cost of the trip is **£12.80 per student**. To be considered for a place on this trip, please complete a consent form for your child by Tuesday, 10th November using the link below. Should the trip be oversubscribed, places will then be allocated through the lottery process outlined above. Successful applicants will be notified, and payment will be required via ParentPay by **Friday 20th November 2026** to secure their place.

[Clip n Climb Consent Form - Wednesday, 27th January 2027](#)

Headteacher: Mr J Mitchell
Brinkley Lane, Colchester, Essex CO4 9PU
Tel: 01206 842211 Email: admin@gilberd.com Website: www.gilberd.com

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Registered in England and Wales Company No 07755713

Registered office: Norman Way, Colchester, Essex CO3 3US



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Further details regarding session sign-ups, collection arrangements and any equipment requirements will be shared with successful applicants in due course.

We look forward to offering students this exciting opportunity and hope it will be an enjoyable experience for all involved.

Yours faithfully

Mr S Banham
Head of Year 8

Mrs A Phillips
Assistant Head of Year 8

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