

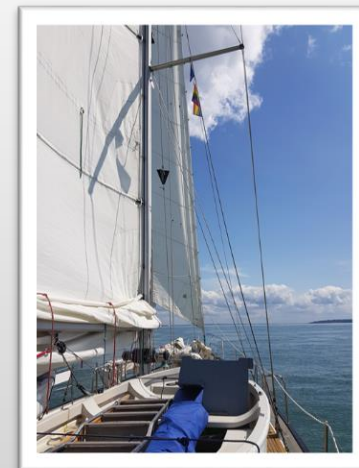
ENRICHMENT AT TESTWOOD

RONA Sailing Project Sail Training Voyage July 2023

During the final week of the Summer Term, twelve Year 10 students plus Mrs Long and Mr Booker took part in a five-day, four-night sail training voyage in the Solent. For Mrs Long and Mr Booker this was their second time sailing with the Project so they knew what to expect. For this voyage we sailed on the Donald Searle, and this time we were joined by five members of the “afterguard”; Colin (the skipper), George (the mate), Alex S, Ellen and Alex Evans (a former Head Boy at Testwood School!) The students were divided into two watches; Port (Miella, Evie, Martyna, Kian, Tommy and Alex) and Starboard (Callie, Thea, Amelia, Patrick, Isaac and Jack).

Monday 17th July: Having left Universal Marina in Hamble in the early afternoon, we headed out into the Solent. The plan was for us to moor up in Yarmouth on the Isle of Wight but a boat with a technical issue had moored up in our space so we headed on to anchor up in Alum Bay. It was very choppy when we tried to anchor up at Alum Bay but we got there eventually!

Tuesday 18th July: We sailed along from Alum Bay to the Dorset coast, getting a great view of the Needles as we passed by, and ended up anchoring up for the night on the Jurassic Coast in Studland Bay close to Old Harry Rocks.



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Wednesday 19th July: This day was a highlight of the trip for many! The students had the opportunity to learn how to row a boat, and also went swimming in the sea. A great time was had by all. In the evening we sailed on to Poole Town Quay where we moored up for the night. The most exciting thing about this was having the opportunity to finally have a shower, and to restock on sweets from the local shops!

Thursday 20th July: A long day of sailing as we left Poole at 6am, and retraced our steps past the Needles. In the afternoon we sailed up Southampton Water and anchored up for a while at Eling, so close to home! In the evening, we moored up at Ocean Village (where there were some very expensive yachts), and Miss Barbour came to visit us and see what we had been doing.

Friday 21st July: After cleaning the boat and having some shore leave in Ocean Village, we returned to Universal Marina at Hamble to end our trip. It was an enjoyable week – the students worked well together and with the afterguard, and lots of new skills were learned. We probably won't miss using the toilets on the boat though!

