



The Learning Away schools have developed a series of themed resource packs to help other schools plan and deliver **Brilliant Residentials**.

Find out more at: <http://www.learningaway.org.uk/>

### **Top Tips: volunteering as a student leaders**

Bulwell Academy produced this Top Tips list to help their young leaders understand their responsibilities as a student leader:

- **Take instructions** from the lead staff member – if you are unsure who this is, or want clarification of the instructions, just ask!
- **Set a good example.** Model good behaviour at all times - remember you are on show all the time. Be a good role model.
- **Show respect** to school staff, other students and the staff at our venue. You are representing our school and first impressions are important.
- **Speak and act appropriately.** Think about what's appropriate behaviour; no swearing, chewing, drugs, alcohol, playing pranks or using mobiles / iPods whilst you are working with children.
- **Keep it fun** and be friendly, but don't try to be too 'matey' with the children; you are attending in a leadership capacity, and need to strike a balance between gaining the children's trust and being over-friendly.
- **Don't be cliquy with other student leaders.** Try to avoid 'grouping together' as young leaders, since children may find this intimidating and think you are unapproachable.
- **Work with your student leader buddy.** Don't put yourself in a position of being alone with a child; where possible work in pairs as student leaders, or with a member of school or venue staff.
- **Take part in all activities you're asked to help with.** If you are asked to do something you don't fancy doing, please just do it anyway! It's important that the children see you participating with enthusiasm. If you are asked to do something you are genuinely uncomfortable about, speak to the lead staff member.
- **Help us to help you stay safe.** Make sure we know of any requirements you have such as special needs or dietary requirements and we also need your parental permission form fully completed and returned.
- **Plan for your own skill development.** Let the primary staff know if there is a particular area you want to gather experience in leading or supporting, as they may be very willing to help you do this now or on future residentials.