



# ABINGDON

From: Captain John Chapman : Abingdon School CCF

7 September 2012

Dear parents

## **CCF Alpine Ski Development Camp VII 2012**

I am writing to inform you of our seventh annual winter adventure-training trip. This is intended to give cadets the opportunity to experience downhill skiing or snowboarding in the Swiss Alps, in a controlled and safe environment.

If your son is interested in this camp, this letter is to brief you on some of the details and costs so that you can decide whether to commit to securing a place.

### Location

Following the success of past Abingdon School CCF Alpine Development Camps we will be returning the Jungfrau region of Switzerland. The resort of Wengen, one of the World Cup venues, is an excellent base for skiers of all abilities and it offers very good facilities. The surrounding mountains are breathtaking and the pistes skirt within sight of the spectacular Eiger.

### Dates

This season we will run the camp once again in the Christmas holidays. We intend to leave Abingdon very early in the morning of Friday 14 December 2012 and return to Abingdon late afternoon of Friday 21 December 2012; this will allow for six full skiing days.

### Cost

As you may know the MoD like all government departments has huge financial constraints upon them. Therefore we have had to budget the trip with no assistance from them. However, I have managed to get the total cost down to £1150.00 per person. I think this still represents good value for money for 6 full days of skiing with full-time instruction, all accommodation, food, ski passes and transport.

An initial deposit of £350.00 is required with submission of the return slip. Places are limited will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis. The deposit will, of course, be returned if not enough people sign up to make the trip viable. If a place is allocated, the deposit is non-returnable after Friday 14 September 2012. The balance of £800.00 will be requested in two further payments of £400.00 to be paid on Monday 1 October and the remainder by Thursday 1 November 2012. As well as considering maximum viable numbers, we need a minimum of twenty cadets to make this camp viable financially. In the extremely unlikely case that that target is not reached by Friday 14 September 2012, the trip will be cancelled and deposits returned.

### Travel

We will travel from Abingdon to Heathrow by a coach, then scheduled flight to Zurich, then by private coach to Lauterbrunnen. If you commit to this trip, we will purchase an airline ticket for your son, from your deposit cheque of £350.00 on Friday 14 September 2012, assuming enough cadets have committed to make the trip viable.

### Accommodation

We are staying seven nights in a large traditional lodge in Lauterbrunnen. The building offers us a professional kitchen, central dining room, spacious common room and bunk-style accommodation in

Abingdon School, Park Road, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX14 1DE

Tel: 01235 521563 Fax: 01235 849079

[www.abingdon.org.uk](http://www.abingdon.org.uk)

rooms of 4 to 6. Catering will be done by groups of cadets, on rotation, under the supervision of the staff. Food will be plentiful, full of energy and tasty. Cadets will have all meals provided, other than a packed lunch on the way to Switzerland.

### Skiing

All skiing will be under the supervision of qualified BASI ski instructors. Because of the influence of recent legislation cadets will not be allowed to 'free ski'. It is hoped that, towards the end of some days, the groups of differing abilities will meet up, regroup and then ski socially, guided and accompanied by an instructor and staff. This will give friends of differing abilities the chance to ski together in a relaxed way. Cadets who have not skied before are more than welcome on this camp.

### Snowboarding

We are very pleased to announce that an exciting new snowboarding program is being offered to cadets this year. We hope that this will add a fun new element should cadets fancy developing another aspect of their winter sports skills. As the resort's terrain is geared predominantly towards intermediate+ level snowboarders we are going to provide a limited number of places for cadets who meet this level of experience. In practice, this will mean that cadets will currently need to be able to link turns and be competent on terrain up to and including Swiss red runs. They should also be competent in using T-bar and chairlifts on a snowboard. As a rough guide this is equivalent to about 7+days experience on snow of snowboarding. If cadets are unsure if they meet these requirements they should talk to Captain Chapman or Mr Gooding who would be happy to advise further. Cadets will be coached through the syllabus of the British Association of Snowboard Instructors' Central Theme program.

### Equipment

Skiing equipment, skis, boots, poles, and helmet, will be provided in the cost of the trip. Ski clothing cannot be provided so Cadets will need to bring their own. For those snowboarding, boards, boots, helmets and wrist guards will be provided in the cost of the trip. As the current season is now coming to an end, however, there are many bargains to be had at the moment.

### Return Slip

Please complete the return slip if you want to be considered for a place and return it with a cheque made payable to **Abingdon School** for the deposit of £350.00 **no later than Friday 14 September**. I realise that this is a long time in advance to make a decision, but it is necessary if we are to meet the cheaper flight prices and other costs.

If you have any questions before you submit the return please e-mail me at [john.chapman@abingdon.org.uk](mailto:john.chapman@abingdon.org.uk)

Yours sincerely

Captain John Chapman BEM  
OC Army Section

# RETURN SLIP

I WOULD LIKE MY SON TO BE ALLOCATED A PLACE ON THE SEVENTH ABINGDON CCF  
ALPINE SKI DEVELOPMENT CAMP

NAME OF CADET  
(FULL NAMES AS THEY APPEAR ON HIS PASSPORT)

.....

Tutor Group: ..... House: .....

Date of Birth: ...../...../.....

PASSPORT:

Number: ..... Issue Date: ...../...../.....

Expiry Date: ...../...../..... Country of issue: .....

EUROPEAN HEALTH CARD NUMBER .....

PRIVATE MEDICAL INSURANCE POLICY NUMBER AND COMPANY (IF ANY):

.....

SKIING or SNOWBOARDING (*please delete the one "not applicable"*)

SKIING EXPERIENCE (Days on snow): ..... (*please indicate even if zero*)

SNOW BOARDING EXPERIENCE if applicable. (must be min of 7 days): .....

I UNDERSTAND THE COST OF THE TRIP WILL BE £1150.00 IN TOTAL AND I  
ENCLOSE A DEPOSIT CHEQUE FOR £350.00, PAYABLE TO *ABINGDON SCHOOL*.

SIGNED .....(PARENT)

DATE ...../...../.....

FOR STAFF USE:  
TIME AND DATE RECEIVED.....

STAFF SIGNATURE.....