From: Ski Trip Organiser: Ben Simmons

9 March 2018

Dear Parent/Carer,

# Ski Trip to the Alps – February Half Term 2019

15-23 February 2019

Following the ski trip that just happened over the previous half term holiday, I would like to invite your son to participate in a ski trip to the Alps during the 2019 February half term. The provisional details of this trip are listed below however are subject to change depending on numbers and availability.

News article from this year:

https://www.abingdon.org.uk/saint\_gervais\_ski\_trip\_feb18/

The trip is likely to take place to the resort of Saint Gervais les Bains which is part of the Evasion du Mont Blanc ski area also encompassing Megeve and Les Contamines to provide a good variety of skiing. The accommodation is located approximately 1.2 km outside the main town area with a cable car ride up to the level of the ski slopes each morning.

Students from the current Middle School and Lower Sixth are invited to participate in the trip. Boys may range from beginner (1 week of previous skiing experience required) to advanced skiing ability. Advanced snowboarders are also welcome. Unfortunately, we cannot cater for complete novices. Boys cannot sign up for skiing and change to snowboarding later or vice versa due to the numbers having to be confirmed for the lessons well in advance.

This costing provisionally includes:

* Return coach travel to Saint Gervais and travel in the resort each day.
* Accommodation in apartments and breakfast each day.
* 6 day lift pass.
* 6 days of ski/snowboard equipment hire.
* Travel insurance.
* 6 hours of ski lessons on the first day and then lessons from 2pm-5.30pm on subsequent days. In the morning of the last 5 days the students will be able to ski in groups with their friends. (They may not go off piste or on any black runs during this time to comply with our insurance policy).
* Evening meal in a restaurant as a group on two days.
* Evening meal in apartments on two days.

This costing does not include:

* The cost of personal skiing equipment (gloves, salopettes, jacket etc).
* Lunch on the mountain each day and dinner on three of the nights when the students can go into town and eat with their friends.
* Food whilst travelling.

The following companies are likely to be used although may change depending on numbers:

Accommodation:

https://www.vacances-mont-blanc.com/en/location/residence-les-fermes-de-saint-gervais/

Ski/snowboard equipment:

http://www.unlimited-saintgervais.com/en/

Executive coach

http://www.marchants-coaches.com/

Ski lessons

https://www.ski-school-saint-gervais.co.uk/

The provisional cost of this trip is £1250however this depends on the final number of students attending. Should the cost increase to more than £1300 you would have the opportunity to withdraw.

Please note the following:

* Skiing and snowboarding is an assumed risk activity. Safeguards are put in place to minimise the risk as far as possible but accidents unfortunately do sometimes happen due to falling over or collisions with other slope users.
* When students are skiing/snowboarding with their friends in the morning sessions, they are only supervised remotely rather than directly by the staff on the trip through the use of SPOT trackers and mobile phones when appropriate. For this reason, it is important that you do not sign your son up to this trip if he has not skied before (or will not have done so for at least a week in advance of attending) as this would put him at an unacceptable level of risk. Equally please be confident that he is mature enough to make sensible decisions of his own accord.

If you would like to reserve a place for your son on this trip please complete the link to the google form giving permission for your son to attend. Following completion of this you will be sent login details for the online payment system separately by Mr Dinsey and requested to pay the deposit. The final two payments will be collected via the online payment system at a later date and the value of these will be confirmed once the cost is finalised.

Consent form link:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdbbfYGcnxA3Zw3pSAlXM5kigbMc9KuiupBNLxbf3I7l6C64A/viewform?usp=sf_link>

Online payment system link:

<https://www.wisepay.co.uk/store/generic/template.asp?ACT=nav&mID=239588>

Please note that by completing the consent form (providing the trip proceeds) you are committing to the total cost of this trip. The non-refundable deposit secures your son's place, but thereafter the School will proceed to make bookings and reservations to procure the best possible deals. The payment arrangements offered are a means of spreading the cost rather than a reflection of when liabilities are incurred.

Places on this trip are limited and they will mostly be allocated on a first come first served basis. If however the ability range of a particular student is vastly different from the rest of the group, this may affect the allocation of places. A reserve list will be created when all places have been filled. If you have any questions regarding this please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Yours sincerely

Ben Simmons

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School Mobile Number for Duration of Trip: 07532088861