



# ST. AIDAN'S

CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

July 2018

Dear Year 7 Pupil and Parents

## **YEAR 8 OUTWARD BOUND TRIP TO ULLSWATER - Monday 10 December to Friday 14 December 2018**

I write to you with regard to the optional annual Year 8 Outdoor Education Course, which will take place at The Outward Bound Centre in Ullswater; a stunning location in the Lake District. The proximity to superb sites, which offer a wide range of outdoor activities, is therefore quite exceptional. The instructors are well-qualified and experienced practitioners who have the ability to provide a challenging, yet enormously rewarding experience for all participants.

The course that we will follow at the centre is tailor-made for us and built on The Outward Bound's 'Adventure and Challenge' model. The sort of activities on offer will be canoeing/kayaking, rock climbing, raft building, hill walking and scrambling, gorge walking, mountain navigation together with a variety of on-centre activities such as high ropes and initiative exercises.

The Centre has some large rowing boats on the lake that a whole group of 12 pupils can use to visit an island or an inaccessible part of the shore. Some may row across the lake to go hill walking or rock climbing, rowing back at the end of the day. The Year 8 Ullswater trip will undoubtedly become one of those great memories that youngsters have of their time at St Aidan's School.

Although outdoor activities form the basis of this trip, it is enormously beneficial in so many other ways. For many pupils, a full week may be the longest period they have spent away from home and looking after themselves is a very important part of the experience. Instructors place great emphasis on personal development during the week; working with others is also an important element of the course. As teachers, we frequently see enormous positive benefits and real changes in individuals after taking part in this trip. The accommodation is comfortable and the buildings are set in grounds that have a long waterfront on the western shore of the lake. Further information is available from The Outward Bound website [www.theoutwardboundtrust.org.uk](http://www.theoutwardboundtrust.org.uk).

The cost of the trip, including coach travel is £300.00, which represents extremely good value for a course of this quality and type. The Centre will provide all equipment including boots, waterproof trousers and jackets and students will need to pay a £10.00 deposit on arrival. The Centre refund this money at the end of the week if the students return all the equipment. Students will require very little spending money as everything is included.

If your son or daughter is interested in a place on this trip, please pay the first deposit payment of £75.00 on ParentPay by **Friday 27 July 2018**, the second payment of £75.00 by **Friday 7 September 2018** and a third payment of £150.00 by **5 October 2018** (reminder emails will be sent out). Please contact Mrs Holey

Headteacher: Mr J Wood

St. Aidan's Church of England High School, Oatlands Drive, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG2 8JR

Tel: 01423 885814 • Fax: 01423 884327 • Email: [admin@staidans.co.uk](mailto:admin@staidans.co.uk) • [www.staidans.co.uk](http://www.staidans.co.uk)



# ST. AIDAN'S

CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

in the Finance Office if you do not have your login details. Please note that **all payments for this trip are non-refundable** unless a replacement student is found to fill the place, as we have to make regular payments to The Outward Bound Centre. I would be grateful therefore if you could discuss the details carefully with your son/daughter prior to paying the deposit to ensure that they are fully committed to the trip.

School trips including residential visits form an important part of the curriculum offered at St Aidan's. When accompanying children on a school trip, staff are acting *in loco parentis* just as they do in school. However, trips away from the normal school environment involve taking into account different routines and environments, which demand that pupils are able to show an increased level of responsibility and maturity. In order to participate in any trip the school staff have to be confident that a pupil will be able to cope with the challenges that the trip presents.

At the beginning of the new term in September 2018, the Trip Leader, Head of Year and Senior Staff will look at the behaviour, attendance and wellbeing of all pupils who have registered on the trip to decide whether they are able to cope with these demands. If we decide the Ullswater trip is not suitable for your son or daughter, we will inform you in writing and we will return deposits in this case.

Once accepted onto the trip, if we have any concerns about a pupil's participation on the trip in the time between gaining a place and the departure, **the Head of St Aidan's reserves the right to withdraw the pupil's place and any payments made may not be refunded.**

The Outward Bound Centre send specific medical forms for completion by parents/guardians and pupils. Once we have received your initial deposit, we will forward a form for completion which must be returned immediately to school, as The Outward Bound Centre require these **at least one month** before arrival at the Centre. Please note that St Aidan's School and the Centre will keep the information confidential.

Should you have any queries about the trip, please do not hesitate to contact either Mrs Collins, the Trips Administrator, on 01423 818527 or myself.

Kind regards

Mr Holdsworth  
Assistant Head & Co-ordinator Outdoor Education

Headteacher: Mr J Wood

St. Aidan's Church of England High School, Oatlands Drive, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG2 8JR  
Tel: 01423 885814 • Fax: 01423 884327 • Email: [admin@staidans.co.uk](mailto:admin@staidans.co.uk) • [www.staidans.co.uk](http://www.staidans.co.uk)



**ST. AIDAN'S**  
CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

**YEAR 8 - OUTWARD BOUND ULLSWATER**

**Monday 10 December to Friday 14 December 2018**

- I consent to my son/daughter taking part in the Ullswater Residential trip as outlined in the letter dated July 2018
- I have paid £75.00 deposit on ParentPay and understand that this and all further payments are non-refundable unless a replacement student can be found

Name of Pupil ..... Form .....

Signed (Parent/Guardian) ..... Date .....

Headteacher: Mr J Wood

St. Aidan's Church of England High School, Oatlands Drive, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG2 8JR

Tel: 01423 885814 • Fax: 01423 884327 • Email: [admin@staidans.co.uk](mailto:admin@staidans.co.uk) • [www.staidans.co.uk](http://www.staidans.co.uk)