



ST. AIDAN'S

CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

November 2017

Dear Parents / Guardians and Year 12 Students

Year 13 St Aidan's Ski Trip to France – 23 February 2019 to 2 March 2019

I am delighted to inform you of the Year 13 ski trip we have planned for the half term break of 2019. The trip is open to all students who are currently in Year 12 at St Aidan's High School and will be in Year 13 for the academic year of 2018-2019.

The trip will depart on Saturday 23 February 2019 and return on Saturday 2 March 2019. We are hoping to fly from Manchester to France with return coach transfers to and from the airports. We will be travelling with the highly recommended Specialist School Travel Company, **Equity Ski**.

On the south-western limit of the Alps, the French resort of SuperDévoluy is one of the largest ski areas in the Southern Alps. Ranging between 1,500 to 2,500 metres, the varied slopes of the Dévoluy ski area are great for mixed ability skiers. The area links to La Joue du Loup which gives access to 100km of piste. The lift system is extremely efficient and the resort has 45km of slopes covered with snow-making facilities and 53 runs in total.

We will be staying at The Hotel Club Chardonnelles which is located at the bottom of the slopes next to the lifts, offering the convenience of doorstep skiing and is only a 5 minute walk from the town centre. The hotel's facilities are excellent and has an outdoor pool, a games room with table football, pool and table tennis, together with a sunny terrace offering stunning views across the resort.

All students will ski in groups of no more than 12 skiers per qualified ski instructor and they will ski with students of a similar ability. Those who have never skied before will find that this provides an opportunity to learn this exhilarating sport in a safe and structured environment. Those people who are regular skiers should note that there is **no opportunity for unsupervised skiing**; however, they will be skiing with people of a similar ability. All groups will consist entirely of St Aidan's students, and a member of school staff will accompany the group at all times.

The cost of the trip will be £1270.00 and covers the following:

- Return coach transfers in the UK and France
- Flights, airport taxes and **full insurance** for winter sports
- Full board, including 3-course evening meal and hot lunches taken at the hotel
- Hotel accommodation is in rooms of 3-4 students
- Full ski pass for 6 days and hire of skis, boots and helmets for 6 days
- Après ski entertainment
- 4 hours of ski instruction with qualified instructors on each of the six skiing days.

Headteacher: Mr J Wood

St. Aidan's Church of England High School, Oatlands Drive, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG2 8JR
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Please remember that skiing is an assumed risk activity. This means that there is the chance of accidents leading to injuries. If this potential risk represents a problem, e.g. due to membership of a sports team, then you should perhaps consider whether this trip is correct for your son/daughter.

Please note that all students will be required to wear helmets whilst skiing.

To enable us to keep the price of this trip as reasonable as possible, **there is a limit of 40 places.** These will be allocated on a first come-first served basis. If we have more than 40 students wishing to attend, we will put all names in a hat and a senior member of staff will select them. Any deposits paid for your son/daughter will be refunded and a waiting list will be created.

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.

The school will look at the behaviour, the attendance and the wellbeing of a pupil and decide whether they are able to cope with these demands **before** accepting the pupil onto any trip out of school. The decision to allow a child to participate will be taken between the trip leader, the head of year and senior staff. Once a pupil has been accepted onto a trip then, if in the time between gaining a place on the trip and the departure, staff have concerns again about the pupil's participation in the trip, the school reserves the right to withdraw the pupil's place.

If you wish for your son/daughter to take part in this trip, please make a **non-refundable deposit** payment of £170.00 on ParentPay where you will also be asked to give consent to your son/daughter taking part. Please contact Mrs Holey in the Finance Office if you do not have your ParentPay logon details. Completed reply slips should be placed in the catering card box outside the School Finance Office no later than **Friday 24 November 2017.**

The payment schedule will be as follows:

Deposit Payment	£170.00 due by Friday 24 November 2017
Second Payment	£275.00 due by Friday 19 January 2018
Third Payment	£275.00 due by Friday 25 May 2018
Third Payment	£275.00 due by Friday 29 September 2018
Final Payment	£275.00 due by Friday 23 November 2018

Please note that unless we can find a replacement, **deposits and subsequent payments will not be refundable** if a student chooses to withdraw from the trip, or is not a member of St Aidan's Sixth Form at the time of the trip, as we have to make interim payments to *Equity ski*.

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Please note that, in accordance with all trips organised by St Aidan's (either Sixth Form or Stem School), **alcohol is NOT PERMITTED** in any manner during the duration of the trip. If any student contravenes this rule, we reserve the right to exclude the student from the remainder of the trip with a view to contacting parents to bring their son/daughter home at their own expense.

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.

Yours faithfully

Mr D Holdsworth
Coordinator of Outdoor Education

Headteacher: Mr J Wood

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St Aidan's Year 13 Ski Trip to SuperDévoluy in France, February 2019

I give consent for my son/daughter (**NAME**) to take part in the St Aidan's High School Year 13 Ski Trip to France during spring half term from 23 February to 2 March 2018 and understand the ruling that alcohol is not permitted in any manner on any trip organized by St Aidan's School

..... **Student Signature** **Parent Signature**

I have made payment by ParentPay (**please sign**)

I understand that deposits and subsequent payments will not be refunded in the event of my son/daughter withdrawing from the trip (**please sign**)

- Name
- Form
- Full name on Passport
- Passport Number
- Issue Date
- Expiry Date
- Date of Birth
- British Passport YES/NO British Citizen YES/NO
- UK shoe size (for ski boot hire)
- Head circumference in cm (for helmet hire)
- Height in cm (for ski hire)
- Weight in cm (for ski hire)
- Ski ability : **Level 1 Level 2 Level 3 Level 4 Level 5 Level 6 Level 7** (*please circle*)
(*see following page for information on choosing levels*)

Signed: (**Parent/Guardian**) Date:

Please return this reply slip to the Main Reception, marked for the attention of Tracey Collins, no later than Friday 24 November 2017

Please note that a place cannot be held for your son/daughter if we do not receive this form together with payment by Friday 24 November 2017

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Please read the following information so you can choose your correct ski level

Ski Level 1

This is my first time. I have never put skis on before either on snow or on a dry slope.

Ski Level 2

I've tried skiing before, on snow or on a dry slope. I have started to snowplough turn on the nursery slopes.

I have been on skis before but I am virtually a beginner. I understand what a snow plough is and have started to snow plough turn on a green/beginner slope. In some circumstances I am a nervous beginner who has had some basic lessons but would like to revisit the basics.

Ski Level 3

I am confident snowploughing on green and blue runs and my skis are sometimes parallel towards the end of the turn.

I have normally skied for a week. In some circumstances I am a nervous skier who can parallel but wants to build confidence.

Ski Level 4

I am nearly parallel but often still use a small plough to start the turn.

I feel very comfortable on blue runs but feel my technique and my ability to stay parallel suffers when conditions gets tricky. I may have skied one or (more commonly) several weeks skiing on blues and reds.

Ski Level 5

I am a competent parallel skier and can ski red runs in good conditions. But I struggle when it gets bumpy, steeper, icy or the snow gets deep.

I have done a few weeks skiing. I can always ski parallel on blues and reds in good conditions and can get around the mountain easily. I am ready to learn on steeper pistes.

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Ski Level 6

I am an advanced parallel skier that can ski all reds and blacks as well, providing they are not too steep or bumpy.

I have skied 8 weeks or more. I am comfortable on black runs although my technique could still do with some work.

Ski Level 7

I can ski most places. Black runs are no problem and I enjoy off-piste and itinerary runs.

I am a very experienced skier and I've probably skied more than 16 weeks. I like to go fast.

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