



ST. AIDAN'S

CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

March 2019

Dear Parents / Guardians and Year 11 and 12 Students

St Aidan's Sixth Form Ski Trip to Aprica, Italy – 15 February 2020 to 22 February 2020

Following our very successful Sixth Form skiing trip over half term, we are proposing a return visit over the February half term break of 2020. The trip is open to all students currently in Year 11 and Year 12 at St Aidan's and will be in Year 12 and 13 for the academic year of 2019-2020. Places are limited to **40 students and these will be allocated on a first-come first served basis via ParentPay.**

The trip will depart on Saturday 15 February 2020 and return on Saturday 22 February 2020. We are hoping to fly from Manchester to Milan in Italy with return coach transfers to and from both the UK and Italian airport. We will be travelling with the highly recommended Specialist School Travel Company, **Equity Ski.**

Situated on the stunning mountains of Valtellina, Aprica is a truly stunning natural plateau between imposing mountain ranges in Italy. The slopes are at altitudes between 1,200 and 2,300 metres, allowing skiers to descend directly from the top of the mountain to the skiing grounds in Aprica resort offers 21 pistes with a total length of 40 km and is an inviting atmosphere to make skiers feel at home.

We will be staying at The Hotel Roma, which is a modern hotel set in a prime location. The hotel is positioned on the Corso Roma in the centre of Aprica and is just 50m from the ski lifts. Students will stay in multi-bedded rooms and the hotel offers a large bright dining room, a spacious games/activity room and terraces overlooking the dramatic mountain ranges.

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 groups at all times.

We estimate the cost of the trip to be in the region of £1335.00 and £1370.00 and the price will be confirmed once we receive the deposit payments. Included in the price is:

- Return coach transfers in the UK and Italy
- Flights, airport taxes and **full insurance** for winter sports
- Full board hotel accommodation (3-course evening meal and hot lunches taken at the hotel)
- **5 hours of ski instruction with qualified instructors on each of the 6 skiing days**
- **Full ski pass** for 6 days and **hire of skis, boots and helmets for 6 days**
- Après ski entertainment including night skiing, ice-skating and swimming.



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We anticipate the level of interest to be very high for this trip as it is open to both Year 11 and Year 12 students and, in order to manage this fairly, ParentPay will open on **Monday 8 April 2019 at 12:00**. If your son or daughter would like to join the trip, we would ask that you pay a deposit of **£250.00 via ParentPay by Friday 12 April 2019**.

The 40 places will be allocated on a first come first served basis by receipt of online payment and once the places have been filled on ParentPay, you will not be able to sign up for the trip or pay the deposit, even if it before the deadline of Friday 12 April 2019. Please then email Mrs Collins on t.collins@staidan's.co.uk and she will create a waiting list of students based on the date and time of your email.

Additional instalment payments will then be due in May, September and November 2019. We will send out a payment schedule with the exact amounts and payment dates at the beginning of the summer term.

It is extremely important at this stage to consider your son or daughter's future at St Aidan's, particularly if they are in Year 11. If you commit to the trip now and then, as a family decide that your son or daughter no longer wishes to remain in the Sixth Form or they withdraw from the Sixth Form prior to the date of departure, **we will not be able to refund any monies paid**.

All payments, including the deposit of £250.00, are non-refundable as we have to make regular payments to Equity in order to secure the best price. **Please therefore take the time to discuss this trip fully with your son or daughter prior to signing them up.**

Skiing is an assumed risk activity, which 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.**

School trips including residential visits form an important part of the curriculum offered at St Aidan's. When accompanying students 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 students 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 student 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 student and decide whether they are able to cope with these demands **before** accepting the student onto any trip out of school. The decision to allow a student to participate will be taken between the trip leader, the head of year and senior staff. Once a student 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 student's place and monies may not be refunded.



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Please note that, in accordance with all trips organised by St Aidan's, **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 or daughter home at the family's 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.

Kind regards

Mr D Holdsworth
Coordinator of Outdoor Education

Headteacher: Mr J Wood

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

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St Aidan's Sixth Form Ski Trip to Aprica, Italy in February 2020

I give consent for my son/daughter (NAME) to take part in the St Aidan's Sixth Form Ski Trip to Italy during Spring Half Term from 15 February to 22 February 2020 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 of £250.00 on 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 or leaving St Aidan's (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 : Day One Beginner, Novice, Lower Intermediate, Upper Intermediate, Advanced/Expert
(please circle) (see the 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 12 April 2019.

Please note that a place cannot be held for your son/daughter if we do not receive this form together with payment by Friday 12 April 2019.



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

Day-One Beginner

You have never skied on snow before, though you may have had one or two lessons on a dry-slope or in an indoor ski centre.

Novice

You have skied on snow before and can snow plough.

Lower Intermediate

You are confident in your ability to snow plough on blues and are looking to develop parallel turns. You can stop by 'skidding', without resorting to a snow plough stop.

Upper Intermediate

At this level, you are confident on blues and most reds and can parallel down both in a controlled descent. You are happy to ski at a reasonable speed, linking your turns.

Advanced / Expert

You are an experienced and confident skier, happy to take on almost all pistes at speed and you are looking to make marginal adjustments to your already-strong technique.