

3rd February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Further to our correspondence in December and having duly considered your responses to the associated survey, additional information provided by both SkiTeam4, plus advice taken from our trust educational visits insurance provider, we now feel in a position to provide further confirmation of details for the rearranged ski tour.

Firstly, the confirmed details of the tour are as follows. We will be departing to Saalbach in Austria on Saturday 12th February and returning on Saturday 19th February 2022. Students will be flying to location with coach transfers either side. The accommodation is at the Hotel Steinachhof, approximately 1.5km from the express gondola and centre of Saalbach. There is a free ski bus just a short walk from the hotel. Bedrooms will accommodate between 2-6 people with private bathroom facilities. The pistes of Saalbach & Hintertgless are bustling ski resorts and provide a comprehensive range and level of skiing that will cater for and challenge all ages and abilities. It is worth noting that the ski range is at high altitude and benefits from an excellent snow record.

The total cost will, as previously confirmed, will not increase by any more than £35 per person and will include; return flight & coach transfers from school to the hotel, full board accommodation, 6-day ski lift pass with 4 hours of group ski lessons every day, boots, ski and helmet hire, evening entertainment options (normally swimming at a local complex &, pizza evening at a local restaurant), and fully comprehensive insurance. Not included in the price is ski clothing, drinks & food to and from the ski resort, spending money (approximately £10 per day). Unfortunately, there is an additional £50 adult supplement for any student over the age of 18 at the time of travel. Should your child now fall into this category, then the finance office will contact you directly in this respect.

Understanding that some parents felt unable to make an informed choice back in December, having contacted the finance office individually, we are now better placed to address many of these issues. It is also abundantly clear that numerous concerns relate to our current Year 11 students and we very much appreciate your patience during this period of consultation. In acknowledgement of one of the most frequent questions raised, we can now confirm, that only students on school roll for the duration of the trip will be able to attend. We can appreciate this raises quite a dilemma for those who may be undecided if sixth form is their intended path, but must be clear that if this is the case, we strongly recommend you withdraw from the trip if you wish to avoid any financial implications/loss. We can only express our sincere sadness at the disappointment we know this will cause to your family.

Over the next week, I will be contacting those parents/carers who have requested further clarity, together with all parents of year 11 pupils. Following these discussions, we will then request this group of parents confirm their decision by responding to a final survey.

We are looking forward to going with as many students as possible after so much disruption.

Yours sincerely

Mr S Burge
Head of Physical Education