

Learners Today: Leaders Tomorrow  
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PKR/MSN/jdy

24 September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Y7-Y11 School Ski Trip – Saturday 16 April 2022 to Saturday 23 April 2022**

I am delighted to announce that the Forest School will be running a ski trip in Easter break 2022. This is of course dependent upon the continued improvement in conditions with COVID-19 pandemic. We cannot at this time guarantee that the trip will run but we can be prepared for the likely possibility. To give us the best opportunity for the trip to run I have organised the trip to occur in the second week of Easter holiday rather than the February half term.

We will be departing on Saturday 16 April 2022 and returning on the Saturday 23 April 2022. We will be skiing at the beautiful Obertauern resort in Austria. It is a super snow sure resort offering fantastic Easter skiing as it offers skiing into May each year. The ski lifts are carefully positioned all around the resort to form a unique ski arena – with the majority of slopes being blue runs (61km) and red runs (35km). More advance skiers are not forgotten, and they can take the Super Seven challenge to check off the seven highest points in the Obertauern ski circuit. Our hotel will be in the Lungau Valley which is a short coach trip of approximately 20-25 minutes.

#### **Trip key features** (included in the price):

- Coached transport from The Forest School to Lungau Valley and return to The Forest School
- Full board accommodation (includes breakfast, lunch and dinner)
- Ski passes for the 5 days of skiing
- 5 days of 5 hours of skiing with ski instructors (ratio 1:12)
- 5 days of ski equipment hire including helmets
- Evening entertainment
- Hot lunches on the mountain (based on previous feedback)

#### **Trip Fees and Payment**

This is a residential activity which includes a large period outside of school time and is not directly related to your child's curriculum or an examination for which they are being entered. There will be a charge for the trip totalling **£850** per student with **£100** non-returnable deposit payable immediately to secure your child's place. Payment for this trip should be made via your child's ParentPay account ([www.parentpay.com](http://www.parentpay.com)). Participation in this trip is voluntary.

Please see the table below as a guideline for the schedule and deadlines for payments for this trip. All deposits paid are non-refundable. Other monies are refundable in exceptional circumstances.

	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
Deposit to secure place ( <b>non refundable</b> )	£100	Immediate payment
	£200	31 October 2021
	£200	30 November 2021
	£150	31 December 2021
Final payment deadline	£200	31 January 2022

Due to coach sizes we are limited to taking **53 students**. Interest in this trip is high so we are asking for immediate payment of the **£100** deposit to secure your child's place on the trip as we are operating a first come, first serve basis. Once full, you can email Mrs Dougherty in the Main Office [jdougherty@theforestschool.net](mailto:jdougherty@theforestschool.net) and request your child goes on the waiting list, dependent on others interested and in case another student drops out.

The tour organiser we are using this year has put in place a finance protection guarantee in case of national lockdowns.

At 8 weeks before departure the following will apply:

1. If the UK Governing Department of Education have no travel restrictions in place, then we will pay the final balance, and we proceed with the tour as planned.
2. After we have paid the final balance, the following will apply:
  - a. A full refund if the DFE advise against residential trips prior to departure.
  - b. A full refund if quarantine is required in your intended destination on arrival or on return in the 14 days before departure.
  - c. A full refund if your group are affected by local or national lockdown measures in the 14 days before departure.
  - d. A full refund if the FCDO advise against all but essential travel in the 14 days before departure.

### Questions

I know you may have many different questions about the trip. If you have any questions please email these to me at [pkoester@theforestschool.net](mailto:pkoester@theforestschool.net)

### Passports

Your child will need their own individual valid passport and either a EHIC (European Health Insurance Card) or a UK GHIC (UK Global Health Insurance Card) in order to travel. It is your responsibility to provide up to date, current passport and EHIC or UK GHIC details, including if your child has a non-EU passport. Please may you provide this information on ParentPay.

### Terms and Conditions

Please see the attached document 'Terms and Conditions for all Trips' which are deemed to have been accepted upon receipt of payment.

To keep our records up to date, please inform us of any changes to your child's personal (including parent/carer contact information) or medical information.

At this point we would like to draw your attention to an extract from our contract with the tour company.

***"Due to the poor behaviour of a minority of schools whilst abroad, all members of the party must:***

- ***act in a responsible fashion and not behave in a manner likely to cause damage or offence to others.***
- ***if under 21, not consume alcohol***
- ***not smoke or cause a fire hazard"***

We would, in any case, expect these conditions to apply to any Forest School trip.

We would withdraw from the trip any child who cannot agree to the above or who seriously misbehaves at school before the trip takes place. In such cases, no money will be refunded.

If you are interested in reserving a place for your child and agree to the above conditions please make immediate payment of **£100** deposit, when it goes live on ParentPay on Monday 27 September 2021 at approximately 4pm.

Yours faithfully



Mr P Koester  
Trip Leader

## **Terms and Conditions for All Forest School Trips**

### **Payment**

All deposits paid are non-refundable. Other monies are refundable in exceptional circumstances.

As part of our commitment to a sustainable environment, please pay for trips via your child's ParentPay account ([www.parentpay.com](http://www.parentpay.com)).

For any queries about payment or in circumstances of financial hardship, please contact the Finance Office.

Our Charging and Remissions Policy with full details can be found on the school website.

### **Cancellations**

In the unlikely event of the trip being cancelled due to circumstances beyond the school's control that are not covered under our insurance policy, the school will make every effort to secure a return of funds from the trip provider. However, if none is forthcoming then the school will be unable to offer a refund.

### **Behaviour and Participation**

Please note that the participation of any student who has been excluded is automatically considered at Senior Leadership Team level. Equally, your child may lose his right to be considered for a place by virtue of his behavior record and/or because he represents an unacceptable risk to the trip organiser, other students or himself. When such a situation arises, each student is considered on an individual basis, and our judgment as to whether the trip is an essential element of the exam or course requirements, the student's individual circumstances, the nature, length and frequency of their exclusions and the potential risk they represent to the trip organizer, other students and themselves. The school reserve the right to withdraw a child from a trip for safeguarding purposes at any time, and we cannot guarantee that any monies paid will be refunded.

### **Personal and Medical Details**

Please assist us to keep your child's records up to date by informing us of any changes to your child's personal or medical information, including parent/carer contact details at your earliest convenience.

### **Parent/Carer Commitment**

- I have read the information about the proposed visit and I agree to my child taking part in the visit and the activities included in the school's letter.
- I am willing to contribute the non-refundable sum as advised in the trip letter.
- I will notify the organiser of any ailment, allergy, condition or diet that requires the attention of the organiser (e.g. hay fever, allergies, asthma) during the trip.
- I understand that if my child is not wearing school uniform (when required) he will not be allowed on the school trip and there will be no refund.
- I understand that my child should behave acceptably on any trip and should not be involved in buying or using cigarettes, alcohol, drugs, replica guns, laser pens or fireworks.
- If permission is given for mobile phones, cameras and other electrical equipment to be taken on a trip, they are the responsibility of the students and must be used respectfully and appropriately and switched off/put away when instructed by staff. Neither the school nor teaching staff are liable for damage to or misuse of students' property.