



The Ridgeway, St. Albans, Hertfordshire. AL4 9NX
Telephone: 01727 799560
Email: admin@sandringham.herts.sch.uk
Website: www.sandringham.herts.sch.uk

Headteacher: Alan Gray, M.Sc., F.R.S.A.
Deputy Headteacher: Caroline Creaby, BA, M.Ed., Ed.D.
Deputy Headteacher: Mark Nicholls, BA (Hons)

Letter No: 146/2023

10th March 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

Ski Trip: France – February Half Term 2024 (Current Years 7 – 12)

Following the success of the ski trip to Canada during half term, I am pleased to announce the details for the 2024 trip to France.

We have selected the amazing and expansive resort of Alpe d'Huez in the French Alps. Alpe d'Huez has plenty of skiing to keep skiers of all abilities entertained. It is also sufficiently high enough to make certain that snow will be available throughout the ski season. Details of the resort can be found here:

<https://www.alpedhuez.com/en/winter/home/>

We will stay in Clubhotel Vallee Blanche, which is located at the bottom of the slopes. The town with lots of activities and entertainment is a few minutes' walk away.

<https://www.skibound.co.uk/destination/france/alpe-dhuez/clubhotel-vallee-blanche/>

If the trip is oversubscribed as it often is, we reserve the right to prioritise the older year groups in the school. In addition to this, participation in this trip is subject to good conduct in school prior to the trip taking place. If any student's behaviour or attitude is in question and they are removed from the trip due to their conduct, any monies paid to date will not be refunded.

The price for the trip includes:

- All transfers to and from airports
- International flights
- 7 nights full board accommodation
- 6 days lift pass
- 6 days hire of ski equipment
- 6 days of ski tuition (4 hours a day)
- A range of evening activities.
- Full snow sports insurance
- A personalised hoody

Not included – ski clothing (can be bought at a meeting held in the autumn term) and lunches.

The price for the trip is **£1,560**. It is true that this is an increase in price to previous years that we have visited the Alps prior to the COVID-19 pandemic and the impact of Brexit. I am sure it is appreciated that the cost of both coach and air travel has increased



dramatically over the course of the last 3 years. Please rest assured that we have shopped around to get the best experience and the best price for the students of the school.

The payment schedule is as follows:

£150 – non-refundable deposit by 31st March 2023

£210 – by 28th April 2023

£400 – by 1st July 2023

£400 – by 25th September 2023

£400 – by 27th November 2023

If your child is currently in Years 7 to 12 and is interested in participating in this trip, please make your payment **of a non-refundable deposit of £150 via ParentPay no later than 3pm 31st March 2023**. Your child will be notified soon after if they have gained a place on this trip and arrangements for outstanding instalments will be communicated. If your child is not successful in gaining a place, your deposit will be refunded. Should you have any queries, please email trips@sandringham.herts.sch.uk

Please note that there will also be two trips during the Easter holidays 2024 that may be applicable to your child and may influence your decision for your child to attend this ski trip. We will be travelling to Iceland with the Geography sixth form students and a Sports Tour is also planned for students committed to Sandringham Sports; the Geography and PE faculties will invite students in due course.

It is imperative that payment deadlines for this trip are strictly adhered to so that we can make the necessary payments to the tour operator and ensure that adequate numbers are secured. If payments are not received by the instalment dates, we would have no choice but to remove your child from the trip.

Please note, that by accepting your child's place on this trip, you are undertaking to make full payment by the given deadlines. Please also note that SkiBound do not differ from other tour companies with regard to cancellations and cancellation fees will apply.

The school will follow all advice given by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Department for Education and our tour operators when it comes to overseas travel for school trips. The tours operators we use provide both ABTA and ATOL protection as part of our tour packages. In the event that the FCO advises "against all travel" to an area or region, then these policies provide protection to prevent any loss in case of necessary cancellation. The school holds travel insurance through the Department for Education Risk Protection Arrangement (RPA) which provides cover in case of travel disruption, medical issues and other emergencies. This insurance does not cover any personal items including money, phones, gadgets and clothing in case of loss, damage or theft. Should you decide to remove your child from any trip where travel is still advised then this will not be covered by insurance, ABTA or ATOL.

Yours sincerely,

Stuart Kemp
Assistant Headteacher