

To: All Parents/Carers of Year 9 Students

Our Ref: 8743118

18 January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: School Ski Trip to Montafon, Austria – February Half Term 2022
(OPEN TO CURRENT YEAR 9 STUDENTS)

We were really disappointed to have to postpone our Easter 2020 Ski Trip to Austria. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this was inevitable and we understand that many students were left disappointed. It has also been impossible for us to re-arrange in 2021.

With vaccinations now in progress, there is no reason to think that we will not be able to rearrange a trip for the current Year 9 going into Year 10 next year, for February half term 2022. Ideally, we would have left it a little longer before getting in touch, but schools nationwide have started to make bookings now and getting a good standard of accommodation at a high quality resort is paramount. Our ski company are pushing for a confirmation by early February, which is understandable.

We would like to assure parents and carers that in the event that the trip needs to be cancelled in February 2022 once again; the school is well insured and so any deposits taken are covered and you would not lose out financially. It will hopefully be nice for students to have something to look forward to.

The trip will take place during February half-term, 2022. We will leave on Friday 18 February 2022 and will return a week later, on Saturday 26 February 2022

The cost of the trip is £1019.00; we have broken this down into more manageable instalments, please see the payment plan at the bottom of this letter. Inclusions are on the next page.

We currently have booked a single decker coach. If we reach the threshold needed to book a double decker coach, we will certainly consider that, but that very much is reliant on sales and whether or not the hotel could accommodate the increased numbers.

Unfortunately, like most procurements in life currently, costs of school ski trips are on the up. 'Brexit' has also had an impact. We get around five or six quotes per year and every single one was an increase on this time last year. For example, our deal from last year is more expensive this year. Although there are slightly cheaper deals on the market, we research thoroughly for months in order to get our students the best possible deal, staying in a good standard hotel with nice food, at a snow-sure resort with, arguably, one of the best school travel companies on the market. Cheaper deals are often not good value for money and, in some cases, have poorer facilities, transport or ski areas which could spoil the students' enjoyment. For a few pounds more per instalment, we are ensuring that this will not be the case. There are more expensive deals also. This deal sits somewhere in the middle.

Skiing is a great opportunity for students to gain a number of new and exciting skills. Even the shyest of students will come back from the trip with new found confidence, and new friends. There will be a range of students travelling, of all ages and abilities, so please do not be apprehensive in this respect. As well as the social benefits of the trip, students will have the chance to experience different cuisines and to try a sport that, in this current economic climate, is not readily available to everyone. We endeavour to account for every possible cost through our school trip, aside from student clothing and minimal spending money.

The tour has been organised by Ski Bound/HTS, a specialist school tour operator. Ski Bound/HTS is well established and has many years of experience in the school travel industry. They are fully licenced by both ABTA and ATOL. South Hunsley is obliged to complete and submit a risk assessment for every trip in conjunction with the local authority; we can assure you that this trip will be risk assessed by myself and the rest of the South Hunsley ski trip staff. I am party leader having led or co-led ten or more ski trips in the past. Additionally, some highly experienced staff will be joining me.

The 2022 ski trip price includes:

- Return, executive coach travel
- Return ferry crossings
- Six nights full board accommodation in the Montafon
(including hot lunches on the slope)
- Includes all food throughout your stay
- Evening entertainment and après ski
- Experienced and knowledgeable resort representative
- Supervision from some of the schools most experienced staff
- Six day resort full ski lift pass
- Ski lessons: 4 hours of expert ski tuition per day (24hrs total)
- Hire of skis, boots, poles and helmets for six days
- Fully comprehensive winter travel insurance through the school
- High Quality South Hunsley 2022 Ski Trip Hoodie

The trip is nearly always oversubscribed. The first priority has to be students who were booked on to the 2020 Easter trip. We are, however, confident that there will be spaces available for other students. These will be allocated on a first come first served basis. We reserve the right to refuse a student entry to the trip based on their school behaviour record.

How do I register my child for a place on the trip?

In response to this letter, please send an e-mail to me at jo.sprakes@southhunsley.org.uk clearly stating your son/daughter's name and tutor group, telling us you would provisionally like to book them a place. If you were previously on the 2020 trip, you still need to e-mail me please, you won't be automatically rolled over. The deadline for sending this e-mail is: Friday 22 January 2021 although as I say, will be a first come, first served basis.

We will then send you a further e-mail confirming your son/daughter's place and asking you for a few more booking details as well as information about the first deposit.

We look forward to welcoming your child onto the trip.

| PAYMENT BREAKDOWN | |
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| 31st January 2021 - Compulsory 1st Deposit | £100 |
| 28th February 2021 - 2nd Deposit | £100 |
| 31st March 2021 - 3rd Payment | £159 |
| 31st May 2021 - 4th Payment | £165 |
| 31st July 2021 – 5th Payment | £165 |
| 30th September 2021 - 6th Payment | £165 |
| 10th November 2021 - Final Payment | £165 |
| TOTAL | £1,019 |

Yours faithfully



Joanna Sprakes
PE Teacher - House Leader