



STATION ROAD KNOWLE SOLIHULL B93 0PT
01564 773 348
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9 September 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Yr.10 Ski Trip 2024, Salzburg, Austria: Friday 9th – Saturday 17th February 2024

Arden is organising a ski trip for 2024 for 88 Yr.10 students to go to Salzburger Sportwelt in Austria, departing on Friday 9th February and returning on Saturday 17th February 2024. The party will travel by executive coach, arranged through 'Select School Skiing', a highly reputable company covered by ABTA, ATOL, School Travel Forum and Council for Learning Outside the Classroom.

I will be leading the trip with the assistance of a further 11 Arden staff. Between us, we have over 50 years of experience in both skiing and, importantly, in supervising pupils in a skiing environment.

For information, there is likely to be a Science Trip to Paris running at the same time, so you may want to consider which trip you would like to do. The Science trip has a limited number of places as well so names will be drawn randomly in case of oversubscription.

Arrangements will be made to offer pupils the opportunity to take ski lessons at Ackers prior to the trip (these will be for a small charge) and will give a much needed confidence boost to many students before their week of skiing. Whether pupils are beginners or experienced skiers, this trip will enable them to ski in one of the best ski areas in Europe. The trip also offers pupils an excellent learning environment, which will provide the opportunity to develop skiing skills and a greater awareness of the mountains. Furthermore, they will learn to work as a team, skiing with discipline, in groups of approximately 10, with instructors and staff. They will be able to practice their linguistic skills and those pupils studying GCSE PE will have the opportunity to be assessed in this activity.

The cost of the trip is expected to be **approximately £1197.00** and includes:

1. Return travel by executive coach from school to resort
2. Return Channel crossing
3. 6 nights full board accommodation (breakfast, packed lunch and evening meal)
4. 6 day lift pass
5. Six days ski, boots, poles and helmets hire
6. 5 hours ski instruction per day
7. Dedicated resort representative
8. Full programme of evening entertainments (some activities may incur a small cost)
9. Fully comprehensive travel insurance, 24 hour emergency and medical assistance service



The price does not include:

1. Drinks with meals (except breakfast)
2. Meals en-route
3. Pocket money
4. Hire or purchase of ski wear



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As you may be aware this is an extremely popular trip at Arden and, as a result, we are often oversubscribed.

If you would like your child to take part in this trip, please complete the [Expression of Interest Google Form](#) (control and click to follow link) by this **Friday 23/09/2022 at 9:00 am**. Places will **NOT** be allocated on this trip on a first come first served basis; in the event of being oversubscribed, we will conduct a random draw to determine the attendees on the trip.

IMPORTANT:

1. Parents should complete the [Expression of Interest Google Form](#) by Friday 23/09/2022 at 9:00 am. **After this time, the form will be closed and we will be unable to accept any further expressions of interest.**
2. Should a draw be required, this will be conducted on Friday 23/09/2022 and pupils should check the list of names of pupils drawn to go which will be displayed on the window outside M6 by 15:30 the same day; parents will also be notified by school comms email. Places for the waiting list will also be drawn and published, too.
3. Pupils drawn to go on the ski trip must pay the first non-refundable deposit of £100.00 by 12pm on **Wednesday 28/09/2022**, via ParentPay/PayPoint, to secure the place. **Deposit payments not received by this time will result in places being withdrawn.**

The trip cost will be paid in instalments as follows:

First Deposit non-refundable : £100.00 – by 12pm on **Wednesday 28th September 2022**

Second Deposit non-refundable: £275.00 – by 12pm on Thursday 1st December 2022

Third Payment: £275.00 – by 12pm on Wednesday 1st March 2023

Fourth Payment: £275.00 – by 12pm on Thursday 1st June 2023

Final Payment: £272.00 – by 12pm on Friday 1st September 2023

- The final cost will be confirmed and advised and final payment adjusted if applicable.

Please note; it is important that the above instalment dates are adhered to please, as we must make payments to the travel company. In the event of non-payment of the instalments, we reserve the right to withdraw the pupil's place on the trip.

If you prefer to pay by monthly instalments after the first deposit, please contact Mrs Webber in the school office (T: 01564 732647). Please be aware that the **first and second deposits are non-refundable** and that the travel company imposes charges for cancellations (unless a replacement is arranged), however cancellation charges can be reclaimed (less policy excess) if withdrawal is for an insurable reason.

Please note the following information regarding surcharges - all Travel Companies advise similar information:



Changes in transportation costs, including the cost of fuel, duties, taxes or fees chargeable for services such as landing taxes or embarkation or disembarkation fees at ports and airports and exchange rates mean that the price of your travel arrangements may change after you have booked. However there will be no change within 30 days of your departure. We will absorb and you will not be charged for any increase equivalent to 2% of the price of your travel arrangements, which excludes insurance premiums and any amendment charges. You will be charged for the amount over and above that, plus an administration charge of £1 per person. If this means that you have to pay an increase of more than 10% of the price of your travel arrangements, you will have the option of accepting a change to another tour if we are able to offer one (we will refund any price difference if the alternative is of a lower value), or cancelling and receiving a full refund of all monies paid, except for any amendment charges. Should you decide to cancel you must do so within 14 days from the date on your final invoice. We will consider an appropriate refund of insurance premiums paid if you can show that you are unable to transfer or reuse your policy. Should the price of your tour go down due to the changes mentioned above, by more than 2% of your tour cost, then any refund due will be paid to you. However, please note that travel arrangements are not always purchased in local currency and some apparent changes have no impact on the price of your travel due to contractual and other protection in place.

Covid-19 statement:

Please note that educational visits are covered by our comprehensive travel insurance. If the trip is unable to go ahead due to Covid-19 restrictions at the time of the trip, we would pursue a claim for the monies paid to date but cannot guarantee that this would be successful. If the claim is unsuccessful then in these circumstances unfortunately the loss would be borne by yourselves and will not be paid out by the school.

By giving your consent for your child to participate in the trip you are giving consent to follow the current government and FCDO (Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office) travel advice for that destination at the time of travel. This could include having to provide proof of a valid negative PCR test or vaccination status and to follow quarantine restrictions at the time of travel which would be at your own expense.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Yours sincerely

B Fletcher

Mr B Fletcher
Ski Party Leader

