

October 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Current Year 7, 8 & 9 - Ski Trip 2023

I am pleased to be able to offer the opportunity for your child to take part in The Weald School Ski Trip which will take place at Easter in 2023. With government guidelines enabling schools to provide residential trips, we are making advanced plans for the Ski Trip to make a long-awaited return. The trip is open to students in current years 7, 8 and 9 (next year's 8, 9 and 10).

Resort:	Obertauern
Country:	Austria
Departure:	Friday 31 March 2023 (via coach)
Return date:	Saturday 8 April 2023
Projected cost per child: depending on the amount of pupils taking part).	£1,190 (The cost is projected and may change)

INCLUDED IN THE ABOVE COST: Return travel by coach, 6 days' skiing in the resort (including lift pass, ski, boot and pole hire), full board accommodation, insurance, daily ski tuition (5 hours) in the ratio 1:10, evening entertainment, and a personalised ski trip hoodie.

Hotel information: <https://www.htstotalski.com/destination/austria/obertauern/felseralm>

NOT INCLUDED IN THE ABOVE COST: passport fees, any required government Covid testing, meals en route, pocket money, dry slope practice in the U.K - this is advised for all new skiers.

There are enormous benefits to be had from outdoor education, residential courses and adventurous activity, and the experience of participating in a ski trip is highly recommended for many reasons including:

- The opportunity to enjoy a healthy, outdoor physical activity in a new environment
- The chance to succeed in a new challenge through learning a new skill
- Helping to build self-awareness, self-confidence and a sense of achievement
- Improving and forming relationships within the school group.

This trip is intended to be fully inclusive and it caters for all abilities from beginner to advanced. **If a situation occurs where the trip becomes oversubscribed, a lottery system will be used to select students fairly.**

Covid 19 Update

Due to the current situation with the pandemic, the trip includes insurance which will cover a number of eventualities.

- Should the trip be unable to run due to Covid-19 restrictions as per advice from FCDO then a full refund will be provided under the Package Travel Regulations
- In addition to the above, if the DfE advises against travel to Austria, but FCDO say travel to Austria is allowed, a full refund would be provided under the “book with confidence” cover provided by Skibound. [Full details here.](#)
- Should a student on the trip test positive for Covid-19 up to 14 days before travel a full refund would be provided.
- Should a student on the trip be admitted to hospital due to Covid-19 up to 28 days before travel a full refund would be provided.
- Should a student be in self-isolation on the date of travel having been instructed to do so by NHS Test and Trace, or NHS Covid-19 app as a result of having tested positive for Covid-19 used a UK government approved Covid-19 Test, a full refund would be provided.

In addition, at this point we are unsure on the exact regulations for Austria regarding vaccinations for 12-18 year olds arriving within the country. It may be that the Austrian government requires all students to be vaccinated. Should this be the case and a student was not vaccinated, they would not be able to participate in the trip and a refund would not be provided. As a school we will provide up to date information on this as quickly as we receive guidance both from the DfE and our travel provider Skibound.

This is a fantastic opportunity for your child to engage with their classmates in an unfamiliar setting, discover new places and ideas and most importantly further develop their own skiing skills.

If you would like your child to take part, please complete the attached application form, and return it to student or main reception, no later than the end of **Tuesday 2 November 2021**. Students will be notified of a place on the trip on Thursday 4 November with the first deposit of **£100** to secure your child’s place due by **Friday 12 November 2021**.

There will be a virtual information evening for parents about the trip on **Wednesday 20 October at 6pm via a google meet link**. Please [complete this form](#) with your details to receive the google meet link prior to the evening. A recording of the information evening presentation will be provided should you be unable to attend. The information evening will provide an opportunity for parents to find out more about the trip and ask questions. However, if you have any questions in the meantime please contact me via amowforth@theweald.org.uk.

Yours faithfully,



Mr A Mowforth
Trip Leader

APPLICATION FORM

If you would like your child to take part in this adventure, please complete and return this form to student or main reception, by **Tuesday 2 November 2021**.

Students will be informed if they have a place on the trip on Thursday 4 November and we will then require a deposit of £100 made payable via ParentPay by **12 November 2021**. A full payment schedule will be issued once your child's place is confirmed.

Any deposits paid are NON-REFUNDABLE unless covered by the insurance policy; for example, due to a medical issue. In such cases, evidence is required. Details of this cover are available on request. **DISINCLINATION TO TRAVEL IS NOT COVERED BY THE INSURANCE** and you will not be able to claim a refund.

Covid 19 scenarios are covered under the insurance with the trip as outlined in the letter. In the unlikely event of the trip being cancelled due to other 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.

Places are limited so please ensure your form is returned on time to avoid disappointment. Replies after Tuesday 2 November will be placed upon a waiting list. There are hard copies of the letter and reply slip at student reception if required.

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Please return to student or main reception no later than Tuesday 2 November 2021.

Student's Name

Year & Tutor Group:

I would like to reserve a place on the above Ski Trip for my child. Once I have secured a place with the deposit (payable by 12 November 2021) I understand that I am responsible for making further payments as designated in the schedule.

For information only please circle the relevant ski experience for your child:

Never skied before / skied on a dry slope only / 1 -2 weeks on snow / 3+ weeks on snow

Signed: (Parent/Carer)