

Welcome and thank you for coming. 120 students and 15 staff from three schools.

The purpose of the evening is to ensure you have every possible piece of information ahead of the trip. I am confident that we have covered everything, so please wait until the end to ask any questions.

Tomorrow I will send all the key points from this evening, so you don't need to make notes.

Please save your questions until the end as I will probably answer them.

Staff introductions.

Ski clothing

- Thermal base layers. Don't have to buy expensive gear – cheap Primark long sleeved t-shirts or roll necks and leggings under skiwear are perfect. One bottom, two/three tops
- Ski socks – 2 or 3 pairs. Wash out and dry on a radiator.
- Over that you need another layer. Again, not expensive ski gear. Something quite close fitting like a micro fleece.
- It is useful to take either a t-shirt to wear as an extra layer or a gilet for added warmth.
- Ski trousers and jacket. Avoid heavily padded jackets because you'll get too hot. Much better to wear layers which you can regulate.
- Everyone is wearing helmets, so you won't need a hat to ski in.
- A snood to keep our neck and chin warm.
- Buy good quality gloves or mittens with inners if you feel the cold. Nothing worse than sitting on a chair lift feeling like your hands are in a vice because they're so cold.
- Decent quality mirrored goggles because they are easy to lift up onto your helmet.
- Sunglasses tend to be for lunch stops
- You won't need snow boots, just sensible footwear suitable for walking on snow.
- Everyone on the trip will have a trip hoody (which you have already paid for). It makes us a team and helps us identify students on the journey when we have stops. These are ordered through [Snow Union](#).

Luggage

- Packing list will be sent by email please follow it to the letter
- Stress to all of you especially those who haven't skied before – it is a very casual affair!
- You will be wearing normal clothes for only a few hours each evening, don't need loads. Ski hotels are usually boiling, so big jumpers are unnecessary.
- Very limited space under the coach, do not bring giant bags or suitcases. **Medium sized squashy holdalls only please** (like the Snow Union one)
- One room does not need five hairdryers. Once rooms sorted, agree who's bringing what.
- A multiplug extension cable can be very useful so that only one travel adapter is needed
- Please do not bring valuables or anything of sentimental value - it is much safer to leave them at home. I would strongly advise against tablets, iPads etc but if you choose to bring them it is entirely at your own risk.

The average day

7.00	Wake up call
8.00	Breakfast (eat as much as you like buffet)
	15-minute Drive to ski slopes
Morning	3-hour ski lesson
	Lunch break (lunch provided). No free skiing.
Afternoon	2-hour ski lesson
	Back to the hotel. We will provide a drink and a bar of chocolate for everyone. Free time.
6.00	Dinner (either buffet or served)
7.30	Evening activity – more about that from Mrs W later
9.30	To bedrooms. Lights out soon after.
	Sounds early but by day three they will be asking to go to bed.

Its tiring and hard work – you will have a great time **it's a trip not a holiday.**

Pocket Money

- We don't provide food on the journey but aside from that the ski trip is essentially an all-inclusive trip.
- Students will want to buy drinks in the evening and often like to buy hot chocolate on the mountain.
- There will be some free time when students will be able to look round the shops. Souvenirs in ski resorts tend to be expensive and tacky. I would suggest you tell your children not to bring gifts back for you (or if they are very keen to, just to buy Italian biscuits/chocolate).
- Approx £20 in sterling and €50 in euros is enough.
- This can be in cash, on a Monzo/Go Henry payment card or on ApplePay or Google Pay.

Ski fitness

- After Christmas we will be having weekly fitness sessions
- They will be on Fridays straight after school for about an hour in your own school.
- These sessions are compulsory. They are meant to be fun with exercises designed to work on key skiing muscles.
- Useful for us to keep in contact with the group and for all of us to get to know each other.
- In these sessions we will also organise: Ski hoodies, coach seating plans and rooming plans.
- A register will be taken, and students' attendance is expected
- If you can't attend for any reason, please let us know
- If you aren't there you don't get to choose who you room with or sit next to on the coach.

Dry Slope

Book your day at Aldershot. Info in tomorrow's email.

Travel Arrangements

- We usually leave after school on Friday but we're going a day later this year to avoid the Dover traffic chaos on the way out and the Calais chaos on our return.
- We will leave on Saturday 10 Feb.
- Provisional departure is 4pm from this school.
- The journey will take up to 24 hours – not as bad as it sounds. First 6 hours passes quickly. After that we watch a couple of DVDs then sleep through the night. Worst part is last few hours when we just want to get there.
- Please bring some suitable DVDs if you have any.
- Students will need food and/or money for food for the journey – the first meal in resort will be on Sunday evening.
- We would also suggest they bring a pillow and a blanket. Also, a toothbrush and toothpaste in their hand luggage. We anticipate arriving back at school at some point on Sunday afternoon, so please be available to collect.

Behaviour

- I will send you a behaviour agreement to read and sign closer to the trip.
- In doing so, students must acknowledge the behaviour that is expected of them and in addition parents agree to take responsibility for their children's behaviour and to pay for any damage they might cause. We are miles and miles up a mountain – can't just get a carpenter or decorator to pop round = ££
- We rarely have behavioural problems on the trip, but in the worst-case scenario, you need to know that we would send a student home and it would be at your expense. Happily, it's never happened yet on a ski trip and long may it continue.

Insurance

Fully insured throughout the trip by the DfE. I will send a link in my email tomorrow.

- You will all have my emergency phone number. 24/7. Not for 'John's hungry, please can you stop the coach,' 'Sarah feels sick, please can you speak to her.' But it **is** for your worries and concerns.

Passports and EHIC

- In the fortnight or so prior to the trip I will collect in passports and EHIC/GHIC.
- Passports need to have 3 months left on them on the date of return.
- I will keep the passport throughout the trip, handing them back on the return leg.
- Students will be given their EHIC/GHIC which they must keep in their jacket pocket for the duration of the trip.
- Vital part of your kit – it guarantees you free emergency treatment should you need it. Without an EHIC treatment will be delayed and will be charged for.

TRAVIS

You will be sent a link by email in the next couple of days from the tour operator.

To complete this you will need to have your child's passport in front of you and to know your child's height (cm) and weight (kg) as well as the circumference of their head (cm). Don't spend time worrying about ski ability – I will allocate the groups closer to the trip.

Administration

A plea. Hours and hours. We are a party of 135 people. When you don't fill in your form or miss a deadline that's more work for me (Hannah) that I could do without. If you booked through an agent and missed the deadlines, you wouldn't go. Same rule applies.

In every message I include the ski email address. Please send queries, questions, and concerns directly to that address and not to the school office.

POWERPOINT