

Dear Parent/Carer

April 2016

### Geography fieldtrip opportunity to Iceland Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> to Monday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2017

As part of providing an enriching educational experience at A Level, the Geography Department are organising a fieldtrip to Iceland in 2017. This follows the success of the 2013 and 2015 Iceland trips. There are spaces for 32 students and the fieldtrip is aimed at students who will be studying Geography in Year 12 and 13. The fieldtrip will be run by *Discover the World* – the largest tour operator to Iceland with over 28 years of experience specialising in high quality educational visits. Iceland is a country of tremendous contrasts, with its volcanic landscape, geothermal activity, waterfalls and glaciers providing an inspiring experience.

The trip will be tailored to the students going, but here is an example of the activities that we could follow:

- Day 1 (Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2017) – leave Fulford early in the morning – Ingleby's coach to Manchester Airport – fly to Keflavik Airport - Blue Lagoon geothermal pool – Reykjavik.



- Day 2 – Hellisheidi geothermal power station – Seljandsfoss waterfall – Skogar waterfall – Solheimajokull glacier walk – stay overnight in Vik



- Day 3 - Myrdalssandur – Laufskalavarda – Eldhraun – Fjardargljufur – Jokulsarlon – Kviarjokull - Svinafellsjokull – Skaftafell National Park – Skeidararjokull – Dverghamrar – Kirkjugolf – Stay overnight in Vik



- Day 4 - Reynishverfi – Eyjafjallajokull Visitors Centre - Reykjadalur Valley Hike – Hveragerdi – overnight Farm Hotel Vatnsholt



- Day 5 - Fridheimar - Secret Lagoon (bathe in a geothermal pool) - Geysir – Gullfoss (impressive waterfall / gorge) - Efsti-Dalur - Thingvellir – stay overnight Reykjavik



- **Day 6** - Early morning transfer – Fly to Manchester – arrive at airport at 11.15am – coach to Fulford.

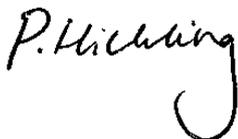
The fieldtrip combines specific educational objectives that are linked to the A Level syllabus with outdoor leisure activities. Links with the syllabus include plate tectonics theory, a case study of a volcanic eruption (causes, effects and management), benefits of volcanic activity, geothermal energy and tourism issues. Other geographical topics that will be covered include river landforms, coastal processes and characteristics of settlements in rural areas. Further to the specific links to the A Level syllabus, the fieldtrip aims to broaden students' understanding of wider geographical issues and to be inspired by a country of amazing landscapes. Furthermore, such an experience should develop students' transferable skills such as team work, individual responsibility, leadership and financial planning.

The accommodation includes good quality youth hostels / hotels, where students will be expected to bring their own sleeping bag. A filling breakfast and evening meal will also be provided. There should be an opportunity for students to buy their own lunch during each day.

The cost of the trip is expected to be around £1020. The final figure will be confirmed once other details are known for example when the price of the flights and specific excursions are released. The balance will be due in December, which is why I am writing to you now, so that there is more time to plan for this. The Geography Department has been to Iceland six times in the past and we realise what an awe inspiring experience visiting Iceland is. *Discover the World* are first class providers of educational experiences and have a comprehensive Safety Management System, they are accredited members of the School Travel Forum, they have a Quality Badge from the Council for Learning Outside the Classroom and they have excellent feedback from other schools. An experienced tour guide will accompany our group for most of the activities and provides lots of educational input. Please see the website for further details. <http://www.discover-the-world.co.uk/en/>

In order for me to assess the demand for places on the trip, please complete the attached form and return it to the School Office by **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2016**. It is planned that there will be 16 students from each year group. All students have access to our extra-curricular activities and reasonable adjustments will be made to ensure each student's full inclusion in this trip. Please contact Mr Bodey, Deputy Headteacher, if you think that this may be needed for your child. If there are more applicants than places then a selection process will take place in September.

Yours faithfully



Mr P. Hickling  
Curriculum Leader for Geography

.....

My son / daughter \_\_\_\_\_ (name) would be interested in applying for the Geography fieldtrip to Iceland in April 2017.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_