



St Nicolas and St Mary CE Primary School

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Bishop
Otter
Academy
Trust

23rd November 2023

Dear Parent and Carers

Year 6 Residential Trip to Dalesdown – June 2024

I am very pleased to confirm that we will be having our Year 6 residential trip to Dalesdown Residential activity centre in the summer term. We were so pleased that we were able to take the previous Year 6 cohort in 2023 and we all look forward to our present Year 6's having a similarly memorable experience.

The trip will take place from **Monday 3rd June – Friday 7th June (This is the week directly after the half term break)**. The children will arrive at 10am on the Monday and stay for 4 nights to be collected on the Friday at 2pm

As a reminder, Dalesdown **only** accommodates one school party at a time. This means that we would be the **only** school in attendance and, in addition, as we 'run' the centre for the week i.e. do all of our own catering, cleaning and tidying during the visit, we would not come into close contact with other children or adults.

Some families may have had older children attend but for those of you where this is your first experience, I cannot recommend the trip highly enough- This will be my 19th Year 6 residential trip out of the last 20 years! (Please see an extract from our annual letter to parents):

"The residential trip to Dalesdown provides a rewarding and enjoyable week for our Year 6 children who benefit enormously from the experience, both educationally and socially. Dalesdown is a local Christian residential activity centre, located in the beautiful rural setting of Honeybridge Lane, Dial Post, and during the week, the children will take part in a wide range of fun and exciting activities. The trip is an invaluable part of the National Curriculum and is one of the highlights of the Year 6 school year."

We intend to have a meeting where parents can ask questions about the trip (e.g. overview, activities, accommodation etc.) in the week after the February half term. We will send out the exact date and timing in a separate communication (we will also give information about the End of Key Stage 2 SATs in May 2024).

As in previous years, the trip will involve a combination of activities on-site and others where we will be transported to external venues by coach. We hope to repeat last year's activities- however we are already aware that there will be increased costs from the activity centres and the transporting costs for coaches to the activities. We are very aware that many families will be managing with ever the increasing cost of living-which is why we intend to keep the increase to the overall cost as minimal as possible.

A cost breakdown is shown below as a guide to how they are split between Board and Lodging and Activities (including transport):

Costs breakdown:

Board & Lodging (including breakfast, packed lunch and dinner)	Chargeable: Parents/carers may request a reduction for the cost of board and lodging where their child is eligible for free school meals.	£135
Activity Costs (including transport)	Voluntary contribution:	£115
Total Cost		£250

At this time, what we are looking for is an indicator of whether parents wish their child to attend. This can be done by paying the deposit amount of £20 by Friday 27th January. If you wish your child to attend, we ask that the balance is paid by Friday 24th May, either in a lump sum or by instalments as set out below. All payments should be made via your sQuid account.

27 th January	Payment 1	£20
24 th February	Payment 2	£60
31 st March	Payment 3	£60
28 th April	Payment 4	£60
24 th May	Payment 5	£50

If insufficient voluntary contributions are received, the school reserves the right to cancel/change some of the activities. In order to give the school time to make changes, if you are unable to pay some or all of the voluntary contributions please advise the school via office@stnm.org.uk

If you wish to discuss a reduction in charges, please also let the school know. In exceptional cases of hardship, the school will try to provide financial support.

Please complete and return the consent form and pay the deposit online through sQuid. If you have any questions, queries or concerns, please get in touch. You can also visit www.dalesdown.org.uk online to find out more.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Lincoln
Headteacher