

10th June 2017

Dear Parent and Carers

SKI 2017 SAALBACH-HINTERGLEMM, AUSTRIA - Friday 30th March – Friday 6th April 2018

We have had a significant amount of interest expressed in the opportunity of a Ski Trip to Austria for St Mary's students in 2018, following our successful trip in 2017. We have chosen the resort of Saalbach-Hinterglemm in Austria, which offers great conditions for skiers of all abilities and a wonderful Après Ski environment for all. This is a fantastic opportunity to ski at a fraction of the price, if booked independently. As this is at the end of the ski season in Europe we have made a provisional booking with the tour operator PGL (<https://www.pgl.co.uk/>). We will be staying at Jugendgästehaus Hinterronach hotel just 200m from the main ski lift in Saalbach: <http://www.pgl.co.uk/en-gb/school-trips/secondary-schools/course-types/skiing-and-snowboarding/hotels/jugendgastehaus-hinterronach>

Summary:

The cost for skiers is **£800**

The cost includes:

- * Return journey by executive coach to Austria
- * Use of the coach in the resort
- * Six nights' full board accommodation
- * Full breakfast and 3 course evening meal
- * Daily packed lunch for consumption on slopes
- * 5 hours per day ski instruction
- * 5 days' equipment hire – skis and boots
- * 5 days' lift pass
- * Winter sports insurance cover
- * Helmet hire (helmet use is compulsory)
- * Evening activities (e.g. Ice hockey game)

The cost *does not* include:

- * Meals en route
- * Pocket money (drinks & snacks)
- * Ski clothing (see below)

Basic Clothing required – goggles, jacket, ski pants, socks, gloves & Fleece/base layers

Ski clothing pack available at a discounted £99 at <http://www.sub32.com/product-category/ski-wear/ski-packs/>
(this is a good guide as to the items needed)

Insurance:

The school has full liability and travel insurance policies in place. PGL will also provide a sports insurance policy. **The policies are not designated to cover loss or damage to students' personal effects (e.g. loss of mobile phone, music player, camera etc)** and cover for cancellation is primarily linked to certified medical reasons. These restrictions are no different to a policy a parent/guardian/carers/student might take out for themselves. In all cases where an excess deduction is in place on the school's insurance policies this may be applied, in full or part to a claim repayment. Students will need their own valid, in date passport (it is only necessary for this to cover the period of travel) and European Health Insurance Card, which can be applied for at no cost or replaced if out of date at: <http://www.nhs.uk/NHSEngland/Healthcareabroad/EHIC/Pages/about-the-ehic.aspx>

Deposit:

To secure a place for your child on the Ski 2018 trip, an initial deposit of **£150 (non-refundable) will be required by 26th June 2017** so we can confirm our provisional booking and secure your child's place on this trip. If the trip is oversubscribed, the 46 places will be allocated by a draw of the names of those who paid the deposit. Our preferred payment method is online, however cash and cheque (payable to St Mary's Catholic College) are acceptable alternatives. Please contact the College Finance Office if you need further information on this.

Once we have received your deposit, and confirmed your child's place, we will proceed to book your child's place with the ski tour provider, PGL.

This means;

- That the financial commitment to complete full payment against the notified timetable below rests with you.
- Cancellation by you, other than for certificated medical reasons, will still require you to make all payments in full or a cancellation fee (see below).

The full payment schedule, payments received from you and the balance due will be available to view on Parent Pay on the College website at <https://www.parentpay.com/public/client/security/#/login>.

Further payments:

These should be made as follows via parent pay, cash or cheque payable to St Mary's Catholic College:

Deposit Payable by 26 th June 2017	£150
Interim payment 1 Payable by 21 th July 2017	£150
Interim Payment 2 Payable by 6 th October 2017	£150
Interim Payment 3 Payable by 24 th November 2017	£150
Final balance payment Payable by 21 st December 2017	£200
Total balance: £800	

Of course you can make payments earlier if you wish but it is important I have received the relevant amounts by the above dates. I am confident that this will be a fantastic experience for your child and is very good value for money.

Date of cancellation	Cancellation fee.
Between 26 th June 2017 and 21 st July 2017	Loss of non-refundable deposit (£150)
Between 21 st July 2017 and 21 st December 2017	£480 (60%)
After 21 st December 2017	£800 (full amount)

The trip must be paid in full by 21st December 2017 and payment plan fulfilled. This is the responsibility of parents.

Reply Slip:

In addition to the deposit payment we do need to start compiling certain information and would ask that you complete the reply slip and return this to Finance Office. This will ensure both parents/carers and students receive communication about this trip, including a Ski Information Evening early in the 2017/18 Autumn term.

Additional Information:

All students are expected to maintain a consistent high level of good attendance and adhere to St Mary's behaviour policy. St Mary's Catholic College has a set of expectations that all pupils must meet if they wish to attend the 2017 Ski Trip. The College Behaviour Policy can be accessed via our website:

<http://www.stmaryswallasey.com/about-st-marys/policies/behaviour-policy/>

Ski Clothing:

Pupils will require ski clothing in the form of;

- Jacket
- Ski trousers/salopettes
- Ski Goggles
- Base layers/fleece
- Ski socks
- Snood/neck warmer
- Gloves

There are a variety of stockists who offer items at a discount including;

Aldi (seasonal stock)

www.mandmdirect.com

TKMaxx

Go Outdoors

Decathlon

Further details will be given nearer the time and a parents' information meeting will be arranged. Please note, of course, that skiing requires a certain degree of fitness and stamina to be safe. If your child sustains an injury or becomes ill between the time of signing up for the trip and the departure date, which may affect their ability to ski and hence the insurance cover, please keep us informed. On recovery it is then likely that a Doctor's note will be required a couple of weeks before the trip in order for your child to travel and insurance to be valid. If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me during college hours at

matt.oakl@stmaryswallasey.com.

Yours sincerely



Mr M Oakley

Associate Assistant Head Teacher & Progress and Welfare Leader Year 11

St Mary's Catholic College Ski Trip - SAALBACH, AUSTRIA
Friday 30th March to Saturday 6th April 2018

**To be returned to the Finance Office for the attention of Mr M Oakley as soon as deposit is paid
 (No later than 26th June 2017) places will be allocated by a draw if oversubscribed.**

Student Name	
Tutor Group	
Email contact address	

Passport number (if not possession please provide ASAP)	
Passport – country of issue - UK (please tick) - Other (please state country)	
Age in years on 31 st March 2017	

I confirm that I have read the St Mary's 2018 Ski trip letter and am committed to paying the full cost of the Ski Trip, £800, by meeting the schedule of payments detailed in this letter.

Signed:Parent / Carer/ Guardian

Date:.....

*Please note we will collect information regarding ski equipment hire and sizes during the Autumn 2017 term