



Dr M T Gareh
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22nd September 2022

Dear Parent,

The Geography and Science Departments are planning an overseas trip at the beginning of February Half Term 2023 to Iceland to study tectonic activity, glacial features, renewable energy and other relevant topics. This extremely enjoyable trip will be open to all Sixth Form pupils but priority will be given to those studying Geography, (places are limited to around 30). We have not run a trip like this since March 2017, but we hope it will run every two years in future and in the intervening years we will run the longer two week trip to South Africa in July, (next one will be July 2024).

We would like to invite you to apply for a place on the Iceland trip which lasts four full days; from early Friday 17th February, returning late on Monday 20th February 2023. The company we are using is Flooglebinder. They organised the highly successful trip to South Africa in July 2022 and also the four-day trip to St Davids before term began this year. They have been chosen to work with us because they deliver bespoke trips that provide the valuable opportunities and experiences we want for our pupils and they do so in a way that is sustainable and environmentally responsible. We are looking to make these trips something that will influence our pupils to make responsible choices now and for the future as part of their wider education.

The itinerary is a busy one and offers plenty to see and do. The link to the site with the details is: <https://flooglebinder.co.uk/iceland-ellesmere-college23>

Iceland itself and current flights are expensive but we hope to keep the cost down to **no more than £1,650** depending on the number of pupils we take and the cost of flights at the time of booking, (currently £400). This cost includes all flights, travel insurance, accommodation with full board, guiding, excursions and coach transfers in Iceland. **It also includes a contingency sum of £100 which will be refunded once the trip returns should it not be required to cover any variation in the cost of flights etc.** We would expect pupils to meet at Manchester airport as we will be leaving early in the morning and it is more practical for students to arrange lifts etc with parents. This also keeps costs down. Arrangements for boarders can be made if they are not able to stay with a guardian or friend. Similarly, pupils should be picked up from the airport in the evening on the day of return, (Monday 20th February 2023), which is in half term. Boarders should plan flights accordingly.



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We are requesting a non-refundable deposit, (should you be offered a place), of £650 to secure a place. The balance of £1,000 will be due at the end of November. All monies must be paid by credit card or bank transfer to the school account.

We will endeavour to accommodate all pupils interested but should we be over-subscribed, non-specialist pupils' names will be drawn randomly and deposits returned for those not chosen. If you wish to take advantage of this opportunity please reply as soon as possible, but no later than Friday 30th September, to Mrs Waddams at the school, (enclosing your deposit), using the slip below.

Yours sincerely,

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