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5<sup>th</sup> September 2016

Dear Parents,

The Geography and Chemistry Departments are planning a visit to Iceland for Easter 2017 to study tectonic activity, glacial and coastal features for students studying A-level. All students are welcome to apply but priority will be given to those students who study Geography or Chemistry should places become limited.

We would like to invite you to apply for a place on the trip which lasts four days; from Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March, returning on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2017. The company we are using is called Izzy Tours ([www.izzytours.co.uk](http://www.izzytours.co.uk)) and were used in our Iceland 2015 visit, they are a company that provides an excellent, value-for-money, service. The itinerary is a busy one and offers plenty to see and do and we have enclosed a copy at the end of this letter.

We hope to keep the cost down to between £800 and £850 depending on the number of pupils we take and therefore the discounts available to us from the travel company. This includes all flights, accommodation with full board, guiding, excursions, and coach transfers. We are requesting a non-refundable (should you be offered a place) deposit of £400 to secure a place. A further instalment of £450 will be due before the end of the Michaelmas Term 2016. All monies must be paid by cheque or bank transfer.

If you wish to take advantage of this opportunity, please complete the slip below and return to us by Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2016 (enclosing your deposit).

Yours sincerely,



**Please return FAO: Mrs R E Waddams, Ellesmere College (Please mark the envelope ICELAND TRIP)**

I wish my son/daughter (name): \_\_\_\_\_  
to be considered for a place on the Ellesmere College 2017 trip to Iceland.

I enclose a cheque (made payable to Ellesmere College) for £400 (as a non-refundable deposit, to be returned if no place is available).

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent)

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## Ellesmere College itinerary for Iceland 2015

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March – Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2015

### Day 1 “Geo-thermal energy and rifting”



- Depart London or Manchester early morning with EasyJet
- Into the Reykjanes: visit the new Geopark Visitors centre
- To the land bridge spanning a major rift between the American and Eurasian plates
- Hot mud pots and sinter pools at Gunnhver 3
- On to the [Blue Lagoon Geothermal Pools](#)
- **Fresh fish and chips lunch** at small fishing port of Grindavik
- Climb an explosion crater
- On to the [Hotel Stykkishomur](#) in the Snæfellsnes
- Stop at amazing cliff of large basaltic columns

### Day 2 “Wilderness: Eruptions, Sharks, Waterfalls, Underground & Coasts”



- View the western fiords and islands from this small fishing port
- Visit to the [Volcanic museum](#) for film and talk on Iceland’s volcanic eruptions.
- On to the unique [Shark Museum](#): the tradition of Vikings. (high listing on Trip Advisor)
- Into Berserks lava field in Berserkjahraun
- Drive round the north coast stopping for awesome waterfalls (including being able to walk behind one), dramatic volcanoes, stunning sea cliffs and pristine fjords.
- **Caving in one of the best lava tubes in Iceland**
- Coastal hike to view caves, arches, stacks and lava formations – an erosional coastline
- Back to the [Hotel Stykkishomur](#) in the Snæfellsnes

### Day 3 “Waterfalls, the Golden Circle and Reykjavik”



- See the glacier beneath the impressive Snæfellsjökul volcano (famous for Jules Verne’s ‘journey to the Centre of the Earth’). Access to this high altitude glacier can be difficult
- **Snow shoe hike** enables you to reach the glacier dependent on time & weather.
- On to Þingvellir National Park - rifting between American & Eurasian plates
- Geysir
- Gullfoss – awesome fault-guided waterfall and walk beside its gorge
- Then to the [Stonebaked Pizza Restaurant](#) for Icelandic meal
- On to the [Airport hotel](#)

### Day 4 “Departure”



- Walk across to the airport (takes 2-3 minutes) to check-in luggage
- Morning flight back to the UK with EasyJet

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