



Queen Mary's Grammar School

Headmaster: R J Langton, M A

15th March 2021

Ski Tour - 20th – 27th February 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am pleased to announce details of the next ski tour for the 20th – 27th February 2022. We will be travelling to the resort of Panorama, Canada for 5 days of skiing plus a fully inclusive après ski programme. Panorama Mountain Village in British Columbia, Canada is the most complete ski-in/ski-out resort in the Canadian Kootenay Rockies. This exciting resort is about big mountain terrain with 4,000 vertical feet and almost 2,900 snow-covered acres, Panorama affords some of the longest continuous runs in North America. As the name suggests, Panorama offers beautiful mountain views and at the summit of the mountain the 'view of the 1000 peaks' is simply breath-taking! The resort itself is very self-contained and has been chosen due to its distance from large centres which should mean a quiet week of skiing compared to half term in Europe.

The school have chosen Visions in Education to lead our trip. They have ran past ski trips (Canada 2017, Italy 2020) for our school and are financially protected by ABTA and ATOL. **The trip will travel only if UK FCO travel guidance states that it is safe to do so.** Guarantees are set up in the case of covid related shutdowns in Canada or the UK and your money is protected by the ABTA and ATOL schemes.

The cost of the trip is £1895. This includes the following:

- Half board accommodation in the hotel (hot lunches being cheaply available on the ski hill!).
- Equipment hire to include skis, boots, helmet and poles.
- Ski lift passes, instruction and lift pass for the 5 days of skiing/5 h per day.
- Return travel from Walsall via coach to the airport and air travel Panorama, Canada.
- In resort representative and 24 hour care from Visions in Education.
- Comprehensive medical insurance provided by the school.

Not included in the price:

- Individual clothing. A set of ski clothing would cost around £100.
- Individual 5 or 10 year UK passport / and the Canadian ESTA (visa waiver).
- Canadian departure taxes applicable to over 16s.
- Spending money, £100-150 of Canadian Dollars for snacks and shopping.
- Snowdome ski training in the UK around £100 (compulsory for absolute beginners). The school organises a separate trip to the snowdome to cater for these students.

We appreciate that the cost of this trip is high. We have worked very hard to keep costs down. The payment plan is shown below. Parents must note that all payments are non-refundable after the deadline for that payment. This is because payments are made to the travel company on behalf of students and these are non-refundable. Students unable to travel for any reason will lose payments made. Payments are made to the travel company shortly after the deadlines shown below. It is important to stick to these dates or to let us know in advance of any delays.

Please note; the trip will proceed only if UK and Canadian travel restrictions permit and only if the FCO guidance says it is safe to do so. Refunds will be made in full in the case of the trip being cancelled for any reason.

1st May 2021: First payment and trip deposit of £495

1st September 2021: Second payment of £700

1st December 2021: Third payment of £700

Parents should note that this is a very popular trip and we have a limit of 45 students able to travel and cannot exceed this number. We are not running this trip on a first come first served basis but instead running a ballot for places with names drawn out of a hat. We aim to give a fair chance to students in all year groups and skiing abilities. Interested students must fill out the form below and hand in to Mr Rendu in room S12 or via reception. The deadline for handing in the slips is 9:00 AM on Monday 26th April 2021. I will write to all parents at that time and successful students will be added to parent pay that day for the first payment to be made by the 1st May 2021 deadline. If payments are not made at this time we will open up the place to the next student on the list.

If you consent to your son/daughter participating in the above trip please complete the [MS Form](#) by 9:00am 29th April 2021 or scan the QR code below. By completing this you are agreeing: I have read and understand that all payments are non-refundable (unless the trip is cancelled). I understand that places are limited and that a ballot system is being used for this trip. The deadline for payment of the deposit of £495 is the 1st May 2022.

Yours sincerely



Richard Langton
Headmaster



Mr M Rendu
Head of Biology/Year 11

