



Queen Mary's Grammar School

Headmaster: R J Langton, M A

15th March 2022

Ski Tour - 19th – 26th February 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am pleased to announce details of the next ski tour for the 19th – 26th February 2023. We will be travelling to the resort of Jay Peak, Vermont, USA for 5 days of skiing plus a fully inclusive après ski programme. Tucked away in Northern Vermont and five miles from the Canadian border, Jay Peak receives over 350 inches of snow – twice as much as many other east coast ski resorts. Because of the mountain's location and geographical features, Jay's abundant natural snowfall and unique terrain combine to make some of the most exciting glade skiing in North America. Jay Peak is all about the snow and its unrivalled off-mountain activities, including indoor pools, climbing walls, games areas and a range of restaurants. The resort itself is very self-contained and has been chosen due to its doorstep skiing, excellent facilities and safe environment for students..

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 £1999. This includes the following:

- Half board accommodation in the hotel.
- 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 QMGS.
- 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).
- USA departure taxes applicable to over 16s at around \$100 US.
- Spending money, £100-150 of US 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. If cost is a barrier, you should contact the Headmaster, by email at enquiries@qmgs.walsall.sch.uk, in confidence to discuss what other support might be available. The price of the trip is fixed save for large fluctuations in travel costs due to large fuel surcharges outside of our control. 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.

1st April 2022: First payment and trip deposit of £499

1st July 2022: Second payment of £750

1st September 2022: Third payment of £750

Parents should note that this is a very popular trip and we have a limit of 48 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. We aim to give a fair chance to students in all year groups and skiing abilities. Interested students must fill out the form online via the link below or the QR code. The deadline for filling out this form is 9:00 AM on Friday 25th March 2022. I will write to all parents at that time and successful students will be added to parent pay that day the for the first payment to be made by the 1st April 2022 deadline. If payments are not made at this time we will open up the place to the next student on the list on a first come first served basis.

If you consent to your son/daughter participating in the above trip please complete this [MS Form](#) via the link or QR code below by 9:00am 25th March 2022. You can give us any further information in the form, including eligibility for Pupil Premium.

For further information regarding this trip please contact Mr M Rendu via email:

mo-rendu@qmgs.walsall.sch.uk

Yours sincerely

Richard Langton
Headmaster

Mr M Rendu
Head of Science

