



HIGH HESKET C of E SCHOOL (VC)

Thursday 29th September 2022

Dear Parents & Carers,

Residential Visits – 2022/2023

After a couple of years of disruption to our usual school residential arrangements due to COVID, we are excited to be in a position to begin arranging residential visits again. The unfortunate 'break' from visits has given us the opportunity to re-assess how we can plan and offer the children structured, progressive residential experiences, as they go through Key Stage Two. Our intent is that the experiences will give children growing opportunities to develop their resilience, build independence, learn and succeed in a range of different contexts.

Traditionally, the school has always offered two significant residential experiences during Key Stage 2. These include a residential trip to an outdoor centre which includes the opportunity to try a range of adventurous activities whilst also building confidence and resilience. This is then followed by a residential visit to Edinburgh where we explore the history and culture of the city.

This year, we would also like to introduce two additional experiences for Year 3 and Year 4 to help the children transition towards these longer residential trips. To give you an indication, what follows is a provisional plan for the next academic year:

Year 3 – afternoon and evening outdoor experiences around the school grounds, including the planning and preparation of an evening meal. (Date to be confirmed – summer term)

Year 4 – evening outdoor activities including the planning and preparation of an evening meal, followed by a sleepover in school. (Date to be confirmed – summer term)

Year 5 – Outdoor residential visit to Derwent Hill Outdoor Education Centre, including a range of outdoor experiences and two-night stay (April 2023).

Year 6 – City residential visit to Edinburgh for four days and three nights (July 2023).

Unfortunately, the cost and availability of pre-Covid providers has changed and so it is difficult to give a definite price at this stage as we are still confirming arrangements. However, we understand that you may wish to begin thinking about this as soon as possible so, as an approximate estimation, Derwent Hill for Year 5 may be in the region of £230. Edinburgh for Year 6 may be in the region of £300. We are very conscious of the recent increases in the cost of living so we are doing our utmost to keep the cost as viable as possible for parents. Although the costs are not yet confirmed, we thought that you may appreciate as much notice as possible to begin preparing for the upcoming residential visits. We are hoping to subsidise much of the cost of the Year 3 & 4 experiences as we can although there may be a small contribution to assist with any food costs.

I am also incredibly grateful for the efforts of our PTA who, with your generous support of their fundraising events, have managed to raise a significant amount for school funds last year. We are planning to utilise some of this to contribute to the rise in costs of workshops and trips in order to keep the costs as low as possible. They are also planning a range of exciting new events for the upcoming year and we hope that a large proportion of money raised will go towards subsidising a percentage of curriculum enrichment for all classes in the summer term, including contributing towards our residential opportunities.

We will confirm details later this term and will make arrangements for anyone wishing to set up a payment plan. Please also feel free to arrange to speak to us if you have any concerns relating to the cost or to ask any questions you may have. If you have any questions or queries at this stage, please don't hesitate to contact me on leigh.andrews@high-hesket.cumbria.sch.uk

Yours sincerely,

Mr L. Andrews

Key Stage Two Leader/Educational Visits Coordinator