

Bulphan Church of England Academy
Fen Lane, Bulphan, Essex. RM14 3RL

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6th November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Years 5/6 possible PGL Residential Trip (2021/22 Cohort) - 20th to 24th Sept 2021

As you know each year we take the children on a residential trip, usually at the beginning of Year 5/6 to help the children become a stronger team. This year we find ourselves in unprecedented times. Currently no residential trips are allowed to take place due to restrictions and we do not know what the future will hold. We do not as a school want to hold back and change our normal practise however the future is very uncertain and we need to think carefully about our plans.

With this in mind we have provisionally booked a Residential Trip for the current Year 4 and Year 5 pupils (who will be Year 5/6 in September 2021) at PGL Windmill Hill in Hailsham, East Sussex.

The booking has been made from Monday 20th September to Friday 24th September 2021.

The in-depth programme of activities, which may include raft building, kayaking, climbing, abseiling, fencing and aeroball, is carefully designed to fully involve the children and to encourage team work and develop their independence, this, in turn, has a huge effect on their self-esteem. The activities, including a programme of evening entertainment, are organised and led by PGL's fully trained staff, although Bulphan staff will have overall responsibility for the children. The children will have three meals a day and sleeping arrangements will be in purpose-built lodges in five or six bedded en-suite rooms.

Of course, we cannot predict what the next year holds in store for us and a thorough risk assessment would be undertaken prior to any trip including a residential. If at any time guidance was telling us it was not safe or we are not sure as a school that the trip should go ahead due to safety we would of course cancel the trip.

We will not be not be asking for any money at this stage. We do not feel it is fair to ask for money at such an unknown time. Usually we would put into place a payment scheme so wanted to give you prior knowledge should you wish to start saving for a potential trip. In the past the cost of this trip was £360 which includes travel, food and accommodation.

'God's word is a lamp to guide our feet and a light for our path'
Inspired by Psalm 119:105

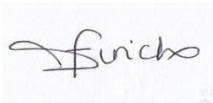
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Of course, prices may rise due to the times we are in and is also dependent on the number of children attending. We will keep a close eye on the site itself, national guidelines and advice from the Local Authority before making any firm decisions. Our current year 5/ year 6 children have had their residential trip postponed until June so will have much more of an idea next year of how we may proceed.

If you think you may be interested in your child potentially going on the trip we would ask you to register your interest now by filling in the separate form attached and returning it by e-mail to admin@bulphanprimary.thurrock.sch.uk before Friday 20th November. This does not in anyway mean you are committed and you can of course in the future decide to pull out. We have to give PGL rough numbers before the end of November and this will allow us to do this. Adding children may not be an option at a later date so please think carefully about your answer.

I very much hope in a year's time we will be in a different place nationally! If you have any questions please do not hesitate to e-mail the school.

Yours sincerely,



Miss. S Finch
Headteacher

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