

Wednesday 9 July 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians

Proposed Residential Trips 2025-2026

I am delighted to write to you with our current proposed residential trip programme for 2025-26. With over 250 trips per year, the trips programme is vast and one of the real strengths of our school. The ambition is to provide incredible opportunities for all students to broaden their experiences beyond the classroom across a broad range of subject areas, interests and activities. I am also acutely aware that there have been concerns about the provision and a desire for the school to act swiftly to expand opportunities for students. Step one has been to try and put more residential opportunities on the list across the board, and I'm pleased that we are making headway here. I recognise that some of these opportunities will appear with fairly short notice periods, and also that there remains work to be done with expanding opportunities for the younger years – we will continue to work on this through the summer months so please do bear with me. Please note that this is our provisional list and I anticipate that it will expand as the year progresses. Details of any additions will be sent out to parents as and when further trips are added. N.B this list does **not** include our extensive day trip programme, details of each of these opportunities will be sent out next term.

Trip Process

All Trip payments and details will be sent out via Evolve. Should you receive any emails from Evolve, these will relate to some aspect of the trip: information, payment or consent. Whilst we are aware there is a wealth of communication/ notices from the school each week, we do kindly ask that you read these emails from Evolve particularly carefully as they are very likely to require a prompt response. Please note that without consent your child's place on a trip cannot be guaranteed, so your support here is essential.

Selection Process

Whilst some of our trips will be targeted at specific students eg Field Work trips, the majority are open to all students within specific year groups. We endeavour to offer as many places as is possible, bearing in mind availability from our tour operators, the safety of our students and ensuring that we do not compromise the quality of trip experience. Where there are limited places, we look at students' previous trip history (whether they have been successful recently in securing other trips), and then we select purely at random. We do not operate on a first come first served basis. We believe our process is fair and offers the best chance in ensuring every student who wants to enjoy a residential experience has the opportunity to do so.

Scheduling/ Payment

In almost all cases, overseas/ residential trips will be scheduled outside of term time to avoid conflict with lessons. Very occasionally, some trips may need to depart on the final day of a term either to ensure the trip length is meaningful/ appropriate, or to ensure a more competitive price. Aware of the current climate, we work hard to keep trip costs as low as possible. We typically



require parents to pay a non-refundable deposit with the remainder of the cost on a 'reducing balance', offering parents the flexibility to make payment sizes that work for you.

Essential Terms and Conditions

All deposits for trips are non-refundable and in making this payment, you are tasking us with the booking of a place for your child on a trip. The school will make payments to our external providers on your behalf to secure the place. Whilst we understand that in exceptional circumstances students may need to withdraw from trips, we ask that parents think very carefully before signing up to any of our trip opportunities. Furthermore, parents may be liable for full costs for a trip once we have made this reservation for you.

Contact

Should you have any trip related enquiries, please could you direct all communication through our special trips account trips@habselstree.co.uk

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Simm', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Andrew Simm
Director of Co-Curricular