

7 February 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

Ski Trip to Austria, 14 - 24 February 2019

Over the years the Sir Thomas Rich's School ski trip has grown in popularity and is the highlight of many students' time here.

We are keen to make our ski trips as cost-effective, inclusive and accessible as possible, so for 2019 we will return to a European resort, Saalbach-Hinterglemm in Austria, with the experienced trip leaders, PGL, over the spring half-term holiday. This is more affordable than North America, yet provides challenges for students of all abilities; from beginners to advanced skiers. It also offers students the opportunity to practise their German.

Saalbach-Hinterglemm boasts some of the most reliable snow conditions in Austria with a comprehensive lift and gondola system linking the Salzburg and Tyrol regions and creating one of the largest ski areas in the world.

Our accommodation, the Jugendgästehaus Hinterronach, is conveniently located on the opposite side of the road to a slope lift. There is an extensive range of nursery and beginner slopes, beautiful tree-lined pistes in the Glemm valley for intermediates and a network of bumpier, speedier runs for expert skiers.

We may also be able to offer snowboarding, but a group of eight students of a similar level/ability would be necessary for this to be an option, which would incur an additional cost. If your son or daughter is interested in snowboarding, please indicate this on the reply slip. Your son or daughter must be prepared to ski if snowboarding is not possible.

If this is a student's first time on a snow sports' trip we would strongly recommend that they ski rather than snowboard as it is easier to learn. Four one-hour ski lessons will be offered at the dry ski slope in advance of the trip for beginners.

The Sir Thomas Rich's School ski trip is an equally exciting experience for students who have never skied before, as it is for students with lots of skiing experience. The benefits of our school ski trips are invaluable as students develop many skills including independence, teamwork, persistence and motivation, together with challenging themselves in a safe, enjoyable and unique environment. Days of skiing are complemented by great après-ski for the group, with free in-house evening entertainment.

Initially there are 42 places available. In the event that the trip is oversubscribed, it may be possible to operate a second coach, as with previous ski trips, but a minimum of 90 students is needed. Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

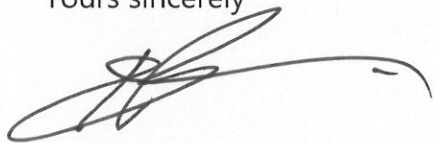
The total cost for the trip will be £980.00 and includes;

- Return executive coach travel from Sir Thomas Rich's School
- Return ferry crossing Dover – Calais
- Fully comprehensive specialist winter sports insurance
- Full board accommodation (including packed lunches)
- Full local area six day lift pass/six day equipment hire (including boots, skis, poles and helmet)
- Six day ski instruction (four hours per day) including testing, ski grading and certificates
- In-house après-ski entertainment
- No surcharge guarantee
- ABTA bonding

If you would like your son/daughter to be part of this exciting snow sport and cultural experience, please read and complete the attached form, and return to the TRIPS BOX in Reception, with a deposit of £100 (which is non-refundable UNLESS the trip does not go ahead, as planned) by Monday 26 February 2018.

SCO (Internet) Pay will be available for payments once the trip is confirmed and initial deposits have been paid. A further letter will follow to confirm your son/daughter's place on the trip along with a payment plan. If you have any specific questions please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Yours sincerely



Ian Birchall
Ski Trip Leader

Ski Trip to Austria, 14 - 24 February 2019

Please complete and return this slip to Mr I Birchall Ski Trip Leader by Monday 26 February

I would like my son/daughter:

Name: **Form:**

To be included in the party for the ski trip to Austria in February 2019 and provide payment details for the £100 deposit below: You will shortly receive a confirmation letter as receipt for this payment. Please tick:

- ☐ Cheque (made payable to Sir Thomas Rich's School and '**Ski Trip 2019**' written on the back)
- ☐ Cash
- ☐ SCO (Internet) Pay will be available once the trip has been confirmed and deposits have been paid to confirm your son/daughter's place on the trip
- ☐ I understand that the deposit is non-refundable, unless the trip does not go ahead as planned
- ☐ I agree to keep to the payment schedule that will be offered
- ☐ I understand that the school has certain payments to make to the ski company (PGL) and that I have a responsibility to keep up to date with payments. If my son/daughter does not fulfil his/her place on the trip I also acknowledge that I may still be liable to pay the full amount for the trip (unless a replacement can be found or an insurance claim is possible)
- ☐ I understand that my son/daughter's behaviour in school should remain at a high standard. If behaviour exhibited in school is poor and Mr Birchall or any other Staff member has concerns about taking the student overseas, he or she reserves the right to remove the student from the trip. This would result in a loss of any monies paid

Places will be confirmed once we have the sufficient number of students subscribed to make the trip viable.

Please indicate in which snow sport your son/daughter would like to participate:

Skiing ☐ Snowboarding ☐ (Please refer to the detail in the letter).

Signed: **Date:**

(Person with legal responsibility for student)