



BEDFORD
FREE SCHOOL

www.bedfordfreeschool.co.uk

18th October 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

YEAR 9 SNOWDON TRIP – 12th – 14th July 2019

We are excited to announce plans for another whole year group residential trip to Snowdonia National Park, Wales. As you will know, this is a BFS tradition that was started last year – it was a true highlight of the school year for all those that took part, and we are looking forward to taking 100% of the current Year 9s on the expedition now it is their turn to become mountaineers.

The key purpose of the visit will be to provide all of our Year 9 students with the opportunity to climb Mount Snowdon. We are doing this because we talk about 'Climbing the Mountain to Success' a lot in terms of their challenge to make the most of their school days by being resilient and trying their best to work hard. We think that experiencing what it is like to climb an actual mountain will teach them how to be resilient, how to help each other to succeed, and, give them all a joyful experience that will make them feel proud of themselves when they have done it.

The 7km walk is very accessible (I have taken all of my young children on it) and should take between five and six hours to complete. In addition to the day on the mountain, students will also have the opportunity to take part in another adventurous activity, such as kayaking or rock climbing.

We will be travelling by coach and staying in bunkbed dormitory accommodation at the Arete Outdoor Centre. This is a fully catered facility, within easy reach of Snowdon. It includes the help of fully trained staff, who will work alongside our own teachers in helping students on the walk. The centre has plenty of waterproofs and walking boots for those students who need it.

The cost of the trip will be £175 per student which is non-refundable. The cost can be paid in instalments - £25 each month, which is non-refundable – with the first one being due **by 31st October**. The trip is non-refundable, and we request that the final payment is made by 30th April 2019.

We know after last year that this will be a wonderful experience for our students, and one that will richly benefit them in many ways. We are aware that this is asking a financial commitment from our families, and, will be asking all students to take part in some planned fundraising activities to keep the costs down. There is a small hardship fund available, for help towards the cost of the trip, for those families who meet the necessary criteria.

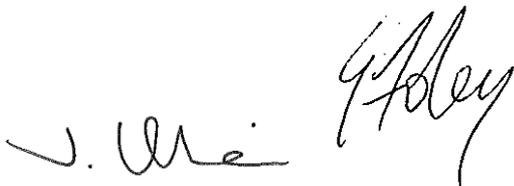
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R E S P E C T • H O N E S T Y • H I G H E X P E C T A T I O N S

There will be an information meeting for parents and students on **Thursday 6th December** at school at 7.30 pm. This will be an opportunity to hear from some of the current Year 8 students who went to Snowdon last time round, and also to find out how best to prepare your child for the expedition.

More information will be available on the school website, including some photos from the last expedition, and also a FAQ section. Should you have any further questions, please do get in touch via email – info@bedfordfreeschool.co.uk

Yours sincerely,



Janet Lehain and Elizabeth Foley
RE Teacher Assistant Principal

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Year 9 Snowdon Trip - 12th - 14th July 2019 - return to tutors

- ✓ I do give permission for my son/daughter _____ form _____ to attend the Snowdon Trip on 12th - 14th July 2019.
- ✓ I understand and this comes with a non-refundable cost of £175 – and have paid the £25 deposit via ParentPay.
- ✓ I can attend the Snowdon Information Meeting on Thursday 6th December

Signed _____ Parent/Carer

PRINT NAME _____

Date: _____