



BEDFORD
FREE SCHOOL

www.bedfordfreeschool.co.uk

26th June 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

YEAR 7 SNOWDON TRIP – 26th – 28th June 2020

Following on from our Snowdon Presentations, we are excited to announce plans for the whole year group residential trip to Snowdon that your child will be taking part in as a new member of the Bedford Free School family.

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 look forward to your full support in sending your own child to take part in the fantastic challenge of climbing the highest mountain in England and Wales.

The key purpose of the visit will be that **all of the Year 7** students climb Mount Snowdon. We are doing this because we continuously use the analogy of ‘Climbing the Mountain to Success’. This is in terms of the challenge it takes to make the most of every school day, by for example, having the right equipment and being consistently diligent and conscientious. We think that experiencing what it is like to climb an actual mountain will teach pupils 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.

Each year, we come across some students who are nervous and reluctant to attend. This is all very normal – children are understandably hesitant to try new things, particularly when it means being away from home if they are not used to doing that. Our experience shows us that they thrive from the challenges of a residential trip – and, that taking part helps them to develop their own maturity and independence. If your child is initially nervous about the prospect of the trip, please sign them up anyway. This is something their whole year group will be doing as part of their wider education, and we insist that no one misses out.

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 Areté 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.

T: 01234 332299 E: info@bedfordfreeschool.co.uk Bedford Free School, 12-16 Cauldwell Street, Bedford, MK42 9AD

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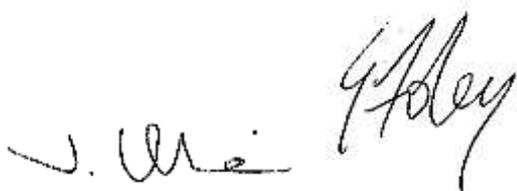
The centre has plenty of waterproofs and walking boots for those students who need to borrow them.

The total cost of the trip will be £190 per student, which is non-refundable.

We are aware that this is asking a financial commitment from our families, and as such this cost may be spread out over the course of the year by using ParentPay to pay small amounts at a time. An initial non-refundable deposit of £30 will be due by Friday September 13th 2019. We will send you reminders thereafter for regular payments.

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 – jlehain@bedfordfreeschool.co.uk

Yours sincerely,



Janet Lehain and Elizabeth Foley
RE Teacher Assistant Principal

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Year 7 Snowdon Trip – 26th – 28th June 2020 – return to tutors ASAP

- ✓ I give permission for my son/daughter _____ form _____ to attend the Snowdon Trip on 26th – 28th June 2020.
- ✓ I understand that this comes with a non-refundable cost of £190, and will pay £30 deposit via ParentPay, once term starts by September 13th.

Signed _____ Parent/Carer

PRINT NAME _____

Date: _____