

JAI/TBA/SMC  
15 March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

**RE: SKI TRIP 2024: ZELL AM SEE, AUSTRIA**  
**DATES: FRIDAY 29 MARCH – SATURDAY 6 APRIL 2024**

We are delighted to inform you that we are re-introducing the Plume Academy Ski Trip. After our highly successful trips to Austria in previous years, we have decided to return to Zell Am See in Austria. The trip will run between **Friday 29 March and Saturday 6 April 2024**. There will be **42 places available** for pupils in the current Years 7–12.

The cost of the trip for **skiing** is **£1,430** which includes full board accommodation, a comprehensive insurance package and a full programme of supervised evening activities. Any money remaining at the end of the trip will be refunded.

Plume Academy would like to acknowledge that the cost of attending this trip is higher than in previous years. This can be attributed to the general increase in travel costs, particularly in coach travel, fuel and accommodation that has occurred following the pandemic. A summary of what is included in the price is as follows:

- Full board accommodation
- Travel by luxury coach
- 6-day ski pass
- 5 hours supervised skiing per day
- Hire of ski equipment (skis, boots and poles/snowboards and soft boots)
- Personal insurance and ski breakage cover
- Snow guarantee
- Evening entertainment (including swimming, bowling and a visit to ice hockey)
- Helmet hire
- Ski achievement awards
- Tour Hoodie

Due to numerous requests from students, I have negotiated a special **Snowboard option** with PGL Ski Europe for a total package price of **£1,460** for students.

Students will snowboard for five hours per day and will have the benefit of the previously listed facilities. (There will be 16 places initially for snowboarding and places will be allocated on receipt of deposit.)

It is compulsory for all skiers and snowboarders to wear helmets, and this is included in the overall price. Alternatively, if you would like to buy a helmet, there will be an opportunity to purchase a helmet from our skiwear rental supplier at our Parents Information Evening in January 2024.

At this stage, the only extra expenses which I envisage might be incurred would be:

1. Hire of suitable clothing (approximately £40-£60)
2. Pocket money (£90- £140)

The Easter holiday commences on Friday 29 March 2024. This change has meant the holiday is significantly closer to the Year 11 final GCSE exams. Any Year 11 student wishing to go on the trip will have to put in writing how they are going to manage revision as well as skiing. This letter should be given to me in the PE office and will be read by myself and the Head of Year.

Payment for the trip may be paid in one amount or spread over a 10-month period of time, with the final payment due January 2024. Upon confirmation of your son/daughter's place, I will issue a list of dates when payments should be made. If you would like your son/daughter to book a place, please could you make an initial deposit via

Parent pay **and return the enclosed slip** to me (Mr. Ainscough) or alternatively, send a cheque made payable to The Plume School for **£175**, ideally before **Wednesday 29 March 2023**.

**Please send any cheques in a sealed envelope with your son/daughter's name and tutor group clearly marked on the front. All cheques should be returned to the finance office addressed to Mrs. S. Lane at Fambridge Road Campus and Mrs. R Harrison at the Mill Road Campus.**

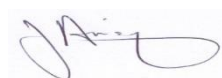
**Deposits are non-refundable once a place has been allocated, unless a child from the waiting list can fill the place.**

Please note that, due to the hazardous nature of skiing, it may be necessary to refuse some pupils permission to go on the trip, if it is felt by Heads of Year and/or SLT that a pupil could not be trusted in a mountain environment. Furthermore, school attendance will also be taken into consideration - your child will be expected to have at least 95% attendance prior to the trip, unless extenuating circumstances prevent them from doing so. Whilst students are in Austria, they will be expected to set impeccable standards of behaviour. Students who are unable to live up to this expectation will be excluded for the remainder of the trip and be returned home to England. The cost of any repatriation will be borne by the parents of the particular student.

Whilst skiing or snowboarding, all students will follow the Essex County Code of Conduct. This does not allow any off piste or unsupervised skiing/snowboarding. Throughout the duration of the trip students will be taught by fully qualified BASI instructors or those provided by the Austrian ski school.

As soon as possible, I will confirm a place for your son/daughter and will issue further information regarding payment dates.

Yours sincerely



**Mr. J Ainscough**  
Head of PE  
Trip Organiser

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**TO: MR J AINSCOUGH – PE OFFICE, FAMBRIDGE ROAD CAMPUS**

**Name of Student** \_\_\_\_\_ **Form** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please tick the appropriate group**

| Snowboarding Option

| Skiing Option

**In order to ensure the best possible experience, please tick the student's current standard of Skiing or Snowboarding**

| Beginners

| Intermediate

| Advanced

**Signed (Parent/Carer)** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

Plume School is registered in England & Wales under number 7849731 | Registered Office: Plume School, Fambridge Road, Maldon, Essex, CM9 6AB  
\*Plume - Maldon's Community Academy\* is the trading name of Plume School

Plume, working with:

