



Faringdon Community College
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May 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian

Year 10 & 11 Geography field trip to Iceland 13-17 October 2025

I am organising through Adaptable Travel a five-day trip to Iceland for pupils in Year 10 and 11 (**currently Year 8 and 9**). Priority will be given to those students with an outstanding behaviour record and have a genuine interest in geography with a view to taking it as a GCSE option in Year 10 and those who have already opted to study geography in Year 9 and are not going on the October 2024 Iceland trip. The tour has been organised with the school travel company Adaptable Travel and will complement and support the college's geography curriculum at GCSE level. I have organised four previous trips to Iceland, and I hope this trip continues to an annual event in Year 10 and 11, if student and parent interest permits.

The purpose of the trip will be to allow students to understand more about the subject and to allow them to learn about geography through first hand experiences. Now one of Europe's most popular destinations, Iceland has natural features in abundance, including icecaps and glaciers, volcanoes, lava flows, ash deserts, mighty rivers, thundering waterfalls and stunning coastlines. We will ensure that this trip meets the educational requirements of the students. This will be a mixture of educational and leisure visits (swimming every day in geothermal heated pools) and it will provide students with a truly memorable experience. At the end of this letter for your information, I have included a provisional itinerary that is the basis for the trip.

The price of the tour is expected to be £1194 per person and this is based on a minimum of 50 students. This price will be confirmed when we know the interest from the students and how many are likely to attend. This price includes all transport, accommodation (Hotel Ork in Hveragerði) excursions, food and travel insurance. We recognise that this is an expensive trip but hope that you realise what a fantastic experience visiting Iceland will be. The students who came on our previous trips had an amazing and memorable time.

Spaces on this tour are limited. Should we have in excess of the required number of students names will be drawn out a hat and unsuccessful applicants will be put on a reserve list. **Please be advised that if your child gains a place on this visit the £200 deposit is non-refundable. Students will require their own passport and GHIC/EHIC card to be able to travel.**

PLEASE DO NOT SEND ANY MONEY AS PAYMENT WILL BE MADE THROUGH YOUR PARENTPAY ACCOUNT. YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED WHEN TO DO THIS. PLEASE ENSURE YOU ARE REGISTERED WITH PARENTPAY AND YOUR DETAILS ARE UP TO DATE.

Voluntary contributions will be sought from parents in support of activities for which the school has to pay. However, there is no legal obligation on parents to contribute and children will be treated the same whether or not parents are able, or choose not to contribute. However, if not enough contributions are made, the activity may have to be cancelled.



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FCC is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and individuals.

Headteacher: Phil Bevan. Chair of Governors: Alex Bond

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Company Number: 7977368 Registered Office: Faringdon Learning Trust, Fernham Road, Faringdon, Oxfordshire, SN7 7LB



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Please note that all students taking part in this visit must have their own passport. In addition, each child must have either a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC), or Global Health Insurance Card (GHIC), or valid health insurance if they are not a permanent resident of the EU. Any travel visas, where necessary, must be organised by parents.

Financial assistance is available if you are in financial hardship and by special arrangement with the school.

If you would like to register interest in your child attending, please reply before 9.00am Monday 20 May via the online form <https://forms.office.com/e/MzWVu48qvd>

Yours Sincerely,

Mr Marc Titcombe
Subject Leader for Geography

Provisional itinerary for the Iceland trip

Day 1: Depart UK in the morning and afternoon/evening on the Reykjanes Peninsular - The Bridge in-between Continents and Gunnhver Hot Springs, visit the Blue Lagoon. Travel to accommodation for evening meal.

Day 2: Morning/afternoon in the Golden Circle - Thingvellir National Park, Mid Atlantic Ridge, Geysir geothermal area and Gullfoss Waterfall including a visit to the Secret Lagoon.

Day 3: Morning along the South Coast - view the impressive Seljalandsfoss and Skogafoss falls. Afternoon Travel to the southern coast including Dyrholaey coastal features, the Town of Vik and Reynisfjara Black Sand Beach. Finish with a visit to the snout of the Solheimajokull Glacier.

Day 4: Morning/afternoon in the Westman Islands – travel south and take the Heimaey Ferry over to Heimaey then walk across the recently-formed lava fields and climb the 200m Eldfell cinder cone volcano – visit the local swimming pool. Finish the day with a visit to the Hellisheiði Geothermal Power Plant.

Day 5 Morning/afternoon Reykjavik – free time to explore Reykjavik including the Hallgrímskirkja church and Harbour. Afternoon to depart Iceland.



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