



March 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian

### **Ski trip to Austria, February 2023**

We are pleased to announce that after our enforced hiatus from running ski trips due to Covid-19, we plan to return to Austria during **February half-term 2023** (Friday 17th February - Saturday 25th February). We will be staying near the town of Altenmarkt and have the option of skiing the resorts of Flachau and Zauchensee - details of the area can be found at <https://www.skiamade.com/en>. The tour company we will be using is Select School Skiing.

The cost of the trip is **£1095** and includes:

- Travel by coach from school to Austria
- Full board accommodation in the hotel
- Full medical insurance (for the duration of the trip)
- 5 hours of lessons per day for 5 days plus 3 hours on the final day
- Lift pass for six days
- Hire of boots, skis, poles and helmet

The only costs not included are spending money for drinks, snacks, presents etc. and the purchase of ski clothing (jacket, ski trousers etc.).

We are planning this trip with the assumption that 2023 may have some Covid-19 restrictions in place that will require proof of vaccination (this assumption is based on guidance from the travel company). Therefore only students who have an NHS covid pass showing proof of vaccination / recovery will be allowed to partake. Should Covid-19 impact the trip significantly, meaning either individuals cannot travel or the entire trip is cancelled, then all money paid will be refunded in full, including the deposit.

If you wish to apply for a place for your child on the trip, you will need to complete this [Google form](#) (you may need to be logged in to and/or use a St Thomas More account to access it). You will also need to pay a **non-refundable £200** deposit via your child's parentpay account no later than **Friday 25th March**. The payment will be listed as Ski Trip 2023. If you are not able to access parentpay or have any other issues regarding the deposit payment then please contact Mr Shield or Mr Lennox via [skitrip@stthomasmore.org.uk](mailto:skitrip@stthomasmore.org.uk)

Traditionally the demand for places on this trip is high and this normally exceeds the number of places available so if we are oversubscribed then we will use the friendship groups specified and draw groups out of a hat. Those who are unlucky will have their deposit returned and be placed on the reserve list and offered places if they become available. We will notify you in due course if your application has been successful.

Successful applicants will require a passport valid until at least six months after return (valid until at least 25/08/2023). Applicants will also require a Global Health Insurance Card (GHIC) which replaces the EHIC. Details of how to apply for a GHIC can be found at

<https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/healthcare-abroad/apply-for-a-free-uk-global-health-insurance-card-ghic/>

OLD DURHAM ROAD, GATESHEAD  
TYNE & WEAR, NE21 4BQ

ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC SCHOOL,  
CROFTDALE ROAD, BLAYDON,  
TYNE & WEAR, NE21 4BQ

☎ 0191 499 0111  
✉ [info@stthomasmore.org.uk](mailto:info@stthomasmore.org.uk)  
🌐 [www.stthomasmore.org.uk](http://www.stthomasmore.org.uk)





If you have any further queries, please feel free to contact either Mr Shield or Mr Lennox via [skitrip@stthomasmore.org.uk](mailto:skitrip@stthomasmore.org.uk)

Yours faithfully

Mr. D Shield  
Party Leader

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