



20th November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers of Year 5 children,

Year 6 Residential Visit – September/October 2024

Although we are still in the Autumn term of Year 5, plans are already being made for your child’s Year 6 residential in the Autumn of 2024. I am very pleased to tell you that we have again booked Buckden House Outdoor Activity Centre in the Yorkshire Dales for two full weeks and that we will be sending two groups of children (one a week) to each stay for 5 days/4 nights.

The trips will take place during the weeks of 23rd - 27th September 2023 and 30th September - 4th October 2024.

Buckden House is an outdoor activity centre run by Bradford Local Authority and the centre provides a range of rewarding activities and challenges within Upper Wharfedale. We have been using the centre for a number of years and it has an excellent reputation for educational programmes which combine safety and security within a residential setting. I am always very impressed with the centre’s ideas and passion for outdoor learning experiences.

For the last three years, we have run a longer full week trip with more adventurous activities and it was a great success. The children and staff loved it. Residential courses organised by the school form part of the National Curriculum. Although they remain optional, I would strongly recommend that all parents make every effort to send their children. These experiences live long in the memory. I’m sure that parents will recall their own such experiences from when they were at school. Children benefit enormously from taking part in the visit. As well as being given the opportunity to participate in the adventurous outdoor activities, they will develop their independence, decision making, thinking skills and social interaction. This acts as an essential foundation for further learning and development across the rest of Year 6 and beyond. These trips also give pupils the opportunity to excel in areas that normally are not accessible to them in the classroom. Therefore, I hope for a full uptake of the places on offer.

The cost of the residential visit will be £325 per child. This includes return travel by coach, full board accommodation, hire of equipment and a full programme of activities with qualified instructors. **To confirm a place for your child, you will need to pay an initial non-refundable deposit** and then follow the payment deadlines set out in the schedule below. Reminders will be sent in advance of each date.

Date	Payment Required	Remaining Balance
30th January 2024	£50 initial non-refundable deposit	£275
30 April 2024	£120	£155
31 July 2024	£120	£35
8 September 2024	£35	£0



**Silsden Primary
School**

All payments for the trip should be made online through ParentPay. I am writing to you now to allow a longer period for you to make payments. I do not want cost to be a barrier to any child attending so please contact me in confidence if cost is a challenge, and we will work out how to enable your child to take part. Pupils who qualify for Free School Meals will be part-funded through a special funding allocation and we will be contacting the parents of these children to discuss how this works.

Yours faithfully,

K.S.Russell
Headteacher