



June 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 11 Iceland Trip

As part of their GCSE Geography course we would like to give our students the opportunity to experience different cultures and areas. A trip to Iceland will allow students to see tectonic, glacial and river processes happening in action, as well as experiencing a different culture. This trip will be open to all current Year 9 students who will be taking Geography as a GCSE.

The students would be leaving school very early on **23 October 2025**, and arriving back at school on **27 October 2025**, quite late in the evening. Included in the itinerary are visits to the Galdingadalir New Volcano Lava Field, the South Coast to view the impressive Seljalandsfoss and Skogafoss falls, Dyrholaey coastal features, the town of Vik and Reynisfjara Black Sand Beach. Students will also visit the Secret Lagoon and take part in a lava tubing experience. Full details of the locations we will be visiting will be made available closer to the time.

Meals will be provided, though students will have some opportunities to purchase extras on the days when we are in towns. Bedrooms are in a dormitory style and will be shared in groups. The accommodation will have wifi and is known as a good location to spot the northern lights. The hotel also provides evening activities and communal spaces that students will be able to use.

We will be traveling with Raybourn tours, who organise and run a variety of international school trips. They hold numerous certifications and awards for their trips and tours, including a Learning Outside the Classroom certificate and ABTA assurance.

The estimated cost for this trip is £1350; please be aware, if the trip goes ahead, a non-refundable, initial deposit of £125 will be due by Monday 1 July. The balance will need to be paid in installments between August 2024 and July 2025.

Please note that the school's policy is that trips and other activities outside the normal teaching programme should be self-funding. Contributions are voluntary, but if contributions are insufficient, the trip may have to be cancelled. No student will be denied participation because of difficulty in meeting the cost. For those facing genuine financial hardship, please contact Ms Stringer in the Finance Office in confidence by Wednesday 19 June.

Please complete an online form [here](#) by Friday 21 June to advise us if your child would, or would not, be interested in taking part.

Yours sincerely

Miss A Hirst
Head of Geography
Email: ahirst@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk