



8 November 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Year 13 Iceland Trip - October half-term 2023

We are delighted to announce that Discover the World, the company who provide our trips to Iceland, have space for a trip from **19th – 24th October 2023**.

Pupils will spend 4 days and 5 nights exploring the south of Iceland encountering stunning landscapes including glaciers, volcanoes, and some of the world's most impressive waterfalls. In addition, pupils will experience the unique culture of Iceland and learn about its fascinating history. Pupils are accompanied by the Piggott staff (mainly from the Geography department) as well as an expert guide.

There will be space for a maximum of 50 pupils on this trip and it is open to all current Year 12 pupils (who will be in Year 13 at the time of the trip). The cost of the trip is expected to be approximately **£1450**, based on 50 pupils attending. If the numbers interested are lower, quotes may increase but this will be confirmed before offers of places are made.

If you wish for your child to be considered for a place on this trip, please ensure you complete the online 'Expression of Interest' form **by 3pm on Monday 21st November 2022**. The link to the form is:

[Iceland 2023 - Interest Form \(online\)](#)

A payment scheme will be put into place so that the expense can be spread over the forthcoming months, but *if your child is offered a place* then consent and a deposit of £150 will be needed by **Monday 28th November** in order to confirm acceptance. This deposit deadline will need to be strictly adhered to, as Icelandair will not hold our flight reservations any longer than this. Should it not be possible for you to pay the full deposit straight away given the tight deadline, please contact us briefly outlining your circumstances, as we may be able to gain authorisation for an extension.

If more than 50 pupils express interest in the trip, priority will be given to A Level Geography students, and a random draw will then be used to fill the remaining spaces. The nature of the trip will require the highest standards of behaviour and discipline for the safety and enjoyment of all. We are expecting demand to be extremely high. In exceptional circumstances we reserve the right to not consider applications from pupils where there are concerns that their conduct may compromise the safety of the trip. This situation is extremely rare, and decisions would be made by the pastoral leads and the senior leadership team as appropriate.

Your child's eligibility to travel remains your responsibility. Please review the notes overleaf on travel considerations before applying for a place.

Yours faithfully,

Laura Somerton

Head of Geography – somertonl@piggottschool.org

Travel Considerations:

Your child's eligibility to travel remains your responsibility. There have been many changes to international travel since both the pandemic and Brexit, and we must therefore bring your attention to some of the relevant issues for your consideration. This means that you must be aware of the following:

- Your child must have a valid passport with sufficient validity remaining on it and you are responsible for checking entry requirements and restrictions, particularly those for non-UK passports. Should a visa be required, you will be responsible for obtaining one. To check travel requirements, please visit: www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice
- If travel is to or through a country which uses the UK EHIC or GHIC scheme and your child is eligible, your child should obtain the appropriate card. The GHIC arrangements replace the old EHICs, but certain countries require a new UK EHIC. If your child is eligible for a GHIC or UK EHIC, but does not hold one, then our insurance will not cover the costs of any medical treatment that would have been provided for free had a card been used. For further information visit: www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/healthcare-abroad/apply-for-a-free-uk-global-health-insurance-card-ghic/
- If any testing (such as a PCR) or certification is required at the time of travel, you will be responsible for any additional costs involved and for ensuring your child has the correct documentation in the format required for travel. This applies even if no such requirements were in place at the time of booking.
- If the country that we are travelling to, requires passengers to be fully vaccinated then our insurance will not cover the cost of cancellation for any unvaccinated passengers if there has been sufficient time to obtain the required vaccinations. Unless your child holds a medical exemption, choosing not to vaccinate would be considered as 'disinclination to travel'.
- If a period of self-isolation or quarantine be required either by the destination country, or by the UK upon return, we would not be covered for any associated costs such as quarantine in a government approved facility or loss of earnings.
- We will closely monitor and follow all travel advice from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. Local rules can sometimes change at very short notice. We are fully insured for cancellation and curtailment arising from changes in travel rules if our trips are booked in accordance with travel rules in place at the time of booking. Parents must be aware that while we will endeavour to give you the most accurate information available to us, any subsequent changes are out of our control and do have the potential to disrupt the trip and affect its cost, therefore your flexibility and understanding of this is appreciated.