

Our Ref: SBL/KON

December 2018

DORMSTON SKI COURSE 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Your son or daughter has expressed an interest in participating in the Dormston School Ski Course to New Hampshire, USA. This letter is intended to give you a brief outline of what is involved.

The Ski Course will take place during the Easter holiday. We will be departing on 3 April 2020 and returning on 11 April 2020. A ski trip to New Hampshire would not be the same without a stopover in New York, so we will be taking in the sights of New York after we have spent 5 days of fun-packed skiing in the ski resorts of Cannon and Loon.

Skiing 2 different resorts really allows pupils to savour skiing in America. Loon is a fantastic resort with great intermediate terrain. There is something for everyone with wide, groomed trails, glades and steep moguls. Cannon enjoys a long season with its excellent 97% snowmaking facilities and offers an excellent range of trails. Perfect for skiing at Easter. New Hampshire also offers a range of après ski activities such as cinema, bowling, swimming, disco, outlet shopping and ice skating.

We will be staying at the Indian Head Resort. A quiet location opposite the famous Indian Head Mountain, a 10 minute drive from the local town of Lincoln, 15 minutes to Loon Mountain and 10 minutes to Cannon Mountain. All rooms have en-suite bathrooms, TV's, free Wi-Fi and a hairdryer. The facilities include games room, lounge, exercise room and gift shop. Breakfasts at Indian Head are legendary with a wide variety of hot and cold items available. Evening meals are served buffet-style, and are also plentiful and child-friendly. Cookies and hot chocolate are available after each day on the slopes.

During the day pupils will have ski lessons with the local Ski School, in the morning and the afternoon. The skiing will occupy five full days for 2 hours in the morning and 2 hours in the afternoon. At all times there will be close supervision of the pupils by the instructors and the staff on the course, all of whom are experienced in assisting with residential visits of this nature.

The cost of a trip like this is always the main concern. You will understand that skiing is not a cheap activity – particularly when you have to pay for the lift pass and skiing lessons, as well as half board in the hotel. I have managed to organise the course with a guide price of £1550. The actual cost depends on numbers and will be confirmed immediately after numbers are known. The price is inclusive of all transport by coach and air, 6 nights half board accommodation in the Indian Head Resort and 1 night at the hotel in New York; fully comprehensive insurance, lift pass and ski lessons for 5 days and hire of skis, ski boots and ski helmets.

Also included in the cost is an evening meal in Times Square, New York plus the use of a coach whilst in New York. As part of the trip we will be spending an afternoon at a shopping outlet on route to New York. This is always a popular element of such a trip, especially if the exchange rate is favourable! As the price is offered on a half board basis; however, students will need to budget for drinks and meals during the journey to and from the UK and for lunches whilst away, as well as their shopping money. Night activities such as bowling, Disco; Ice hockey matches and swimming are also included in the price. The night activities and the arrangements for sightseeing in New York will be confirmed nearer the date of departure. But previous trips have been up the Empire State Building, visited Ground Zero, cruised the Hudson River to see the Statue of Liberty, been to Central Park and shopped on 5th Avenue.

There will be some extra cost as you will need to provide your son or daughter with the correct ski clothing, though most items can be hired quite reasonably through a company with whom we have regular dealings.

We also arrange some practice ski sessions prior to going away; this has cost about £50 in previous years and takes place at Telford Dry Ski Slope.

One reason why we organise the Ski Course so far in advance is to enable parents to pay for the course by instalments through the year. Many parents find this a very useful arrangement.

I am sure you will appreciate that students will be taken on the understanding that their behaviour in school prior to the trip is exemplary. To comply with risk assessment guidelines it is not possible to take pupils who present a risk to themselves or other pupils or staff. We therefore reserve the right to remove from the trip any students whose behaviour has been unacceptable to us.

In these exceptional circumstances where poor behaviour prevents a student from being taken on the trip, then I am afraid that monies paid to the company will be non-refundable.

If you are willing to allow your son or daughter to participate in the course please complete the attached form and return it to school as soon as possible. The **first deposit of £200 is due by Friday 18 January 2018**. Payment will be required via ParentPay or a Bar Coded letter which will be issued to you once you have confirmed your expression of interest.

If the trip is oversubscribed then places will be allocated on a first come first served basis

Proposed Payment Schedule

Initial deposit	£200 (non-refundable)	By Friday 18 January 2019
Second Deposit	£200 (non-refundable)	By Friday 8 th February 2019
Third Deposit	£200 (non-refundable)	By Friday 12 th April 2019
Fourth Payment	£200 (non-refundable)	By Friday 21 st June 2019
Fifth Payment	£200 (non-refundable)	By Friday 6 th September 2019
Sixth Payment	£200 (non-refundable)	By Friday 25 th October 2019
Seventh Payment	£200 (non-refundable)	By Friday 20 th December 2019
Final Payment	£150 (non-refundable)	By Friday 10 th January 2020

Yours sincerely
S Bell

S. Bell
(Ski Trip Leader)

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REPLY SLIP - DORMSTON SKI COURSE 2020

Pupil Name: Form:

I wish my child to take part in Dormston Ski Course 2020.

Signed: Date:

PLEASE RETURN THIS REPLY SLIP TO MR BELL BY FRIDAY 11 JANUARY 2019.