



3rd November 2017

To: Ski Trip Candidates

Dear Parents,

***HOLLYGIRT SCHOOL SKI TRIP 2018 – GRANDVALIRA, ANDORRA and BARCELONA, SPAIN
SUNDAY 1ST APRIL 2018 – SUNDAY 8TH APRIL 2018***

I trust you have all had a pleasant half term. I write with a few important details regarding the forthcoming Ski Trip to Spain and Andorra.

Firstly, here is a suggested ski kit list, as it may be that you would like to begin preparing early. I would recommend shops such as Decathlon, Sports Direct and Aldi, all of which stock well-priced skiwear. There are also specialist skiwear shops such as Love and Piste in East Leake, along with countless online options.

- Ski socks (at least 3 pairs, ideally 5)
- Ski trousers or salopettes (1 pair)
- Thermal leggings (1 pair – unlikely to be needed, but best to have the option)
- T-shirts (several – ideally including some long-sleeved)
- Thermal tops (2 – though they may be unused)
- Ski jacket
- Ski gloves (1 pair)
- Shades (must have good UV protection)
- Goggles (though may not be needed)
- Sun cream (with a high SPF)
- Lip cream (also with a high SPF)

It is natural to assume that it will be very cold, but, whilst this might be the case, as it is Easter, it may actually be quite warm on the slopes. Given the unique mountain environment, the weather can change quickly, and can range from freezing cold to hot. This makes packing an interesting challenge! To this end, appropriate clothing for freezing weather does need packing, though these base layers may well be unused. Having the option to wear layers is important. Sunglasses are essential; high-end Oakley shades are not necessary – I know how much these things cost! – but good UV protection is, which you can purchase at the cheaper end. A pair of goggles is also essential as these will be needed in the event of snow or low visibility. I would recommend a cheap pair to have as a back-up in case of such a scenario. (Occasionally, people prefer goggles to shades irrespective of the weather, and this is fine, but most prefer shades.) Sun cream is essential – it is very easy to suffer from sunburn when skiing, so a small bottle that children can carry with them to top up at lunchtime is ideal. Helmets are **COMPULSORY**, but these are included in ski hire (along with ski boots, skis and poles). The amount of hold baggage is 20kg per passenger: there are very significant charges for excess baggage, which the passenger would be liable for, so please bear this in mind and stick to the limit.

Please ensure that your child's passport is valid for the duration of the trip. There is no need for validity beyond the trip date (some places require three or six months still to run on the passport), but it is essential that it runs until our return to the UK. The School cannot accept responsibility for invalid documentation.

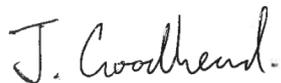
I would also ask that you ensure that your child has a valid European Health Insurance Card (EHIC). This is free to apply for (visit: <https://www.gov.uk/european-health-insurance-card>) and helps things run a little more smoothly in the unlikely event that medical attention is required. As a note, this will only be valid in Spain, but the trip includes travel insurance also (which applies in both Spain and Andorra).

Of course, I am aware of the current political situation in Barcelona, and I shall monitor this carefully with the ski company and adhere to Governmental advice, but, at this time, there is no cause for alarm.

Finally, just a gentle reminder that the payment of the balance will be due in January. I will write regarding this closer to the time.

I intend to host a meeting in Spring Term to explain about the trip in greater detail and to answer any questions or queries you may have, However, if you have any queries in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. Goodhead". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line at the end.

Mr J. Goodhead
Ski Trip Leader