



Ref: VC/RC

21st July 2021.

RE: OCTOBER TRIP TO ICELAND

Dear Parent / Carer,

As we approach the end of term, I wanted to get in touch to provide an update on the plans for the October trip to Iceland - keeping in mind the latest government updates to the Covid restrictions. We have taken the decision to go ahead with the trip as planned, however, there is still some information that we are awaiting from the tour operator. I thought it necessary to share the following information about possible changes:

- The school must pay the full and final balance to the tour operators on the 26th July 2021. Once this is paid it will be harder to cancel or postpone the trip in the future without losing a substantial portion of the overall cost of the trip. This is due to the tour operator paying the suppliers in Iceland.
- The current government guidelines state that all returning passenger to the UK are required to provide a negative Covid 19 test taken within 3 days prior to returning to the UK. The tour operator is investigating if this needs to be PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction) style test or whether a Lateral Flow Test is sufficient. If the lateral flow test is enough, then there would be a cost of £45 for the test. However, if a PCR test is required, the current cost of these in Iceland is £135.00 and potentially would need to be funded by you. There is a possibility that no test will be required when we go in October due to the changes in the government guidelines, but this would only be confirmed closer to the date of departure. If the PCR test is required, the Geography department will investigate the possibility of some fundraising events to help with this cost.
- There are currently no known restrictions whilst we are in Iceland and therefore the original schedule will still go ahead with a potential additional trip to Reykjavik for testing if required.

I will continue to keep you informed of any news that we receive about the trip and the testing requirements as they come back to school from the tour operator. If you require any more information or have any concerns about the trip, please send me an email to discuss further. I will be arranging a parent meeting early in September to give a further update on all aspects of the trip. Could you please email me at rcrosby@haydockhigh.sthelens.org.uk by 25th July 2021, to confirm that you still wish for your child to attend the Iceland trip in October.

Yours sincerely,

Mr R Crosby - Geography Teacher