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Principal: James Tickle

January 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

### YEAR 8 BIOLOGY FIELD STUDIES VISIT BLENCATHRA

On Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018 we are offering a Biology Field Studies Visit for 45 of our Year 8 students. The visit will be taking place at Blencathra Field Studies Centre (FSC) in the Lake District. Departing early in the morning on the Wednesday and returning Friday afternoon.


Blencathra is located in a dramatic setting close to Keswick in the National Park. The accommodation is owned and operated by the FSC who have great experience in running this sort of residential experience. Students will be staying in dormitory rooms and food will be provided.

The programme of events may be weather dependent, however, we are looking to go Ghyll Scrambling (walking up a stream!) on Wednesday afternoon, followed by a full day of studying the rocky shore ecology at St. Bees near Whitehaven and some further field work on site at Blencathra on the Friday.

This visit will be a good opportunity for students to find out about the real life applications of Biology and develop their skills in data handling and analysis. As well as a good bit of fresh air!

Mr Lindley will be leading this visit and has experience of leading both field studies visits and outdoor pursuits activities within schools. If you have any questions regarding the visit please do not hesitate to contact him through the main reception at The Roundhill Academy.

The total cost for the visit will be £220 this covers food, accommodation and activities at the centre. If you wish your child to be considered to take part in this trip please complete the attached slip with the required deposit to the school office with your Child's Name, Tutor Group and Blencathra on it by **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2018**. We would be grateful if you could make payment using ParentPay which is our preferred method of payment.

	<p>Please log onto ParentPay using your unique username and password to make your payment by <b>Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2018</b>. If paying by ParentPay, please do still complete and return the reply slip attached.</p> <p><b>Please see the reverse of this letter if you require Financial Assistance.</b></p>
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Further payment should be paid by Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2018 with the remaining balance by Friday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2018. Alternatively, you can pay in full at any point prior to this. Please see Price Structure overleaf.

A copy of this letter can be found on the school website.

PRICE STRUCTURE	Total	Deposit 23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb 2018	1 <sup>st</sup> Instalment 23 <sup>rd</sup> Mar 2018	2 <sup>nd</sup> Instalment 27 <sup>th</sup> Apr 2018
• Full price	£220.00	£80.00	£70.00	£70.00
• Eligible for any other benefits (Housing Benefits, Jobseekers Allowance, Tax Credits)	£165.00	£60.00	£60.00	£45.00
• Eligible for Free School Meals	£110.00	£40.00	£35.00	£35.00

**Eligibility for Trips and Visits**

Visits are viewed as rewards. Students are representing the school publicly and so students should only be rewarded with places on visits and trips if they:

- Have good attendance;
- Have good behaviour;
- Put effort into their work;
- Wear correct school uniform.

This is a self-financing trip which regrettably will only go ahead if sufficient contributions are received. The cost assumes 45 students wish to go and a reserve list will be made if we are oversubscribed.

In the event of oversubscription after the aforementioned conditions have been applied, names will be drawn from a hat.

**Financial Assistance**

Assistance with the payment for trips and activities is available to parents from a variety of sources, and is provided for a range of reasons.

Students eligible for Free School Meals have a percentage of the costs funded for them from 'The Pupil Premium'. This is additional funding given to schools specifically for this group of students.

Parents who receive any other form of benefit (Housing Benefit, Jobseekers Allowance, Tax Credits) receive a discount from the Governors Fund.

If you do not meet any of the above criteria, but would like further details of the Governors Fund, please contact the school office. Please be assured all enquiries will be treated in the strictest of confidence.

Yours sincerely

  
 John Lindley  
 Trip Organiser

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**YEAR 8 BIOLOGY FIELD STUDIES VISIT BLENCATHRA MAY 2018  
REPLY SLIP**

I give permission for my child \_\_\_\_\_ (Name of Student) of \_\_\_\_\_ (Tutor Group) to take part in the trip to Blencathra.

**a) Please tick where applicable:**

Full Price                       Eligible for Benefits                       Eligible for Free School Meals  
 £    £    £

**b) Method of Payment:**

Payment of £ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed    Cash                       Cheque   
*(Cheque made payable to The Roundhill Academy)*

Paid by ParentPay                      Date paid by ParentPay \_\_\_\_\_

Unfortunately, we will not be able to refund the full cost of the trip if your son/ daughter cannot attend once a place on the trip has been agreed.

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Parent/person with legal responsibility for the young person)*

**DEPOSIT TO BE PAID BY FRIDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> FEBRUARY 2018**