



## Cumbria Primary Ski Course 2023

April 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you may know, schools in Cumbria have participated in ski trips for primary aged children for many years. Sadly, because of the Coronavirus pandemic, the trip has not run for the last two years. We are delighted however, to announce that the trip will be relaunched for 2023. The trip will be organized by a team of head teachers, led this year again by Phil Cooper, Head Teacher of Brough Community Primary School. It is open to all current year four and five children, entering year five and six next year, in Cumbrian state schools and academies.

The trip leaders are all passionate about skiing and have significant experience in organizing and leading residential trips for children. For 2023 we will visit the Italian resort of Artesina. The ski resort is located in the heart of the Maritime Alps, in the Piemonte province of Cuneo. The Mondolè Ski Complex consists of both the resorts of Artesina and Prato Nevoso. There are more than 100 Km of well-kept, first-class pistes, an ever-modernising ski-lift system. The resort sits at an elevation of 1300m and rises to over 2000m. It has a good snow record and is backed up with modern snow-making facilities. For beginners, we have extensively researched then secured a hotel with ski-in-ski-out access and a beginner's slope and moving-carpet ski lift, right outside the door of the hotel. Surrounding slopes provide an array of interconnecting runs, suitable for developing skiers. With their instructor, the more advanced skiers have the opportunity to explore Artesina and its interconnected resort, Prato Nevoso, even skiing black runs!

### Accommodation:

The accommodation is in the 3\*\*\* Hotel Marguareis. As mentioned, it has an ideal location, with the ski school meeting point a few steps from the entrance. The hotel provides a very high standard of accommodation and as we will be filling it, we will maintain exclusive access, allowing for excellent security and safeguarding of the children. The bedrooms are of a good size and all are en-suite. **For Health & Safety reasons and to ensure we are all in the same hotel, numbers are limited to 120.**

### Dates for the 2023 trip are as follows:

Depart: Early morning Sunday 29th January 2023

Return: Late afternoon Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Travel is by coach to Manchester, flights to Turin, transfer to resort by coach. Return flight Turin to Manchester, coach to Cumbria (please note that other regional airports, e.g. Newcastle or Glasgow may be used).

The trip this year will be run in conjunction with Halsbury Travel, who are full ABTA members. Halsbury was founded by teachers in 1986 and has a track record of providing high-quality trips all over Europe and North America.

### The cost for the 2023 trip will be £995 per child.

The price for the 2023 trip includes the following:

- All transport from a central pick up, (two North Cumbria, one South Cumbria) to a regional airport.
- Flight to Turin and return transfers from Turin to the resort and return by coach.
- Full board accommodation at the hotel, all rooms en-suite, all meals on-site.
- 5 hours ski instruction per day for 6 days with the Italian Ski School.
- Hire of all ski equipment – skis, boots, helmets and poles.
- 6-day lift pass.
- Fully comprehensive insurance cover.
- Evening entertainment programme.
- Administration costs.

The system of payment for the course is:

- This letter out to parents: from **Thursday 21st April 2022**
- Closing date for applications for places: **Thursday 5th May 2022**
- Initial deposit deadline (non-refundable deposit of £150): **Thursday 19th May 2022.**

- Second instalment **£450** to be paid by **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022**.
- Final instalment of **£395** to be paid by **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2022**.

**All money paid is non-returnable unless a doctor's certificate is supplied.**

The following items are **not** included in the price and should be budgeted for by parents:

- Pocket money (a maximum of around £30 worth of Euros).
- Breakfast on the outbound journey and lunch in England on return.
- Official trip clothing, such as hoodies.



All pupils will need their own valid passport and UKHIC card for the visit. Please be aware that in some cases your child may be the only one attending from their school and there may not be a member of staff from your child's school present. The trip is staffed by very experienced head teachers, teachers, teaching assistants and other staff, who are all good skiers. We allocate staff places based on skiing and residential experience, the number of children attending from a particular school and the number of new staff we can mentor each year.

#### **Booking your child's place:**

As the trip has not been in operation for two years, **it is our intention to offer places firstly to current year five pupils** – next year would be their last opportunity to attend the trip. Should the trip not fill up with next year's year sixes, we will then extend places to current year fours, on a strict first-come-first-served basis. Following the initial closing date for the trip, we will inform all applicants of whether they have gained a place or not and then ask for initial deposits, to be paid by a strict deadline. A waiting list will be maintained of all pupils who did not gain a place on the trip and offered in chronological order of booking, if subsequent places become available.

**Parents can fill in their expression of interest using the following link or by scanning the QR code above:**

<https://forms.gle/WmhQS3c4kzvAQYvEA>

As stated, priority places will go to this year's year five pupils in the first instance. This letter has been distributed with the consent of your school's head teacher. It is imperative that we keep them informed of any reservations. To that effect, please can you use the following contact email address in the field required, on the Google form:

**School main contact email: [admin@arnside.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:admin@arnside.cumbria.sch.uk)**

If this has not been provided by your school, please can you contact them to request an appropriate email address. We will not accept completed forms without this information. Please fill the form in again if completing it for more than one child in your family. Can we also request that you do not share the link to the Google form with parents from other schools. Distribution of this letter is down to head teachers and not all schools will choose to send it out.

#### **Planning for Covid 19:**

We are acutely aware that the effects of the pandemic linger on. As such, we have ensured that we have chosen a tour operator who provides a Covid refund guarantee. Factors like this mean that it is imperative that we work closely with your child's school, hence this year's booking system. Your school's awareness of your child's place is crucial to us.

Once a place has been secured and your initial deposit paid, you will be kept up-to-date with regular updates, in advance of instalment deadlines. All parents and pupils will also be invited to an orientation meeting in the autumn term, prior to the trip. A final note: the trip is organized by myself and other volunteers. We do this using our own time, outside of busy careers, because we love the opportunity this gives to the children of Cumbria. Whilst we try to be as prompt as we can with replies to emails, other things often do take priority. Also, the trip only runs smoothly when parents make payments and fill in forms promptly. Please only sign your child up to the trip if you are certain that you will be able to comply with these deadlines.

If you require further information or clarification of any of the trip details, please get in touch using the details below:

Best wishes,

Phil Cooper  
Head Teacher, Brough Community Primary School  
Email: [skitrip@brough.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:skitrip@brough.cumbria.sch.uk)

Ski Trip Planning Team:  
Phil Cooper [head@brough.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:head@brough.cumbria.sch.uk)  
Chris Steele [head@fairfieldprimary.co.uk](mailto:head@fairfieldprimary.co.uk)  
Julia Fish [julia@bridekirkdovenby.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:julia@bridekirkdovenby.cumbria.sch.uk)  
Judith Gore [judith.gore@cumbriapha.org.uk](mailto:judith.gore@cumbriapha.org.uk)  
Greta Ellis [head@kirkoswald.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:head@kirkoswald.cumbria.sch.uk)