

20th August 2021

SKI TRIP and ENGINEERING CHALLENGE 2022 Nassfeld, Austria.

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

We have a few remaining spaces for our annual ski and engineering trip following our 6th form enrolment last week. This is an exciting opportunity for all learners, including those of you that have recently chosen to attend the college.

The group will consist of a maximum of 32 learners, staying at <u>Gasthof Michal</u> in Nassfeld, Austria. The large ski resort of Nassfeld is just 20 minutes away by coach from the hotel with the added bonus that we can ski to the Austrian/Italian border. The trip has been organised in conjunction with PGL, who are members of ABTA and ATOL and costs £1,150.00 (pupil premium support available).

Whilst this seems like a great deal of money, it represents excellent value for money as it includes:

- coach transport to Nassfeld and then transport to the slopes each day;
- 5 nights full board (including a breakfast, lunch and dinner) in rooms with en-suite facilities;
- hire of good quality skis, poles and boots;
- personalised hoodie;
- ski instruction with full supervision for 5 hours per day for 5 days;
- ski awards and certificates;
- an evening of bowling;
- lift-pass;
- insurance.

Under the terms of the 1996 Education Act, payments for activities of this nature must be voluntary and it is only fair to state that the visit taking place is dependent on its financial viability and if insufficient parents choose for their child to participate such as to cover the costs it may be necessary to cancel the trip. Please let me know if there are difficulties.

For learners that are currently in receipt of free school meals or have been in the past 2 years, please contact me to discuss how the college might be able to support you with funding this opportunity from our Pupil Premium fund. Learners will only require a small amount of pocket money during their stay, since the food provided at this hotel is very good and they will only need to pay for drinks (no more than £5 a day)

The daily programme will involve an early start, breakfast and then a fully supervised day of skiing with a packed lunch taken up to the slopes. In the evenings, learners will work in their groups on their engineering challenge (the exact nature of the challenge will be confirmed in September). Groups will be supervised at all times on the slopes and they will not be allowed out at night, except for organised activities with staff.

All learners attending will then join the Ski Club and attend after college sessions on Thursdays where they will learn about the engineering challenge element of the trip. Last year, this involved designing, building and programming robots that could extract a medical emergency from the slopes.

Attendance at Ski Club will be an important part of this trip with the club running weekly after college from late September 2021.

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During autumn 2021 you will be invited to a ski evening at the college where you will be given the opportunity to learn more about the trip including suitable outerwear required for the trip (ski trousers, jackets, gloves etc). A second evening meeting will be held during January to confirm plans for the trip.

From experience the trip has been particularly enjoyable if the party consists of a full range of year groups. (We currently have learners from year 9 to year 13 signed up.) Hence, if we are oversubscribed, learner's names will be randomly selected but ensuring a range of ages. I am sure you will agree that the success of such a trip depends on the good behaviour and the self-discipline of the learners. The college therefore reserves the right to refuse a place to any learner whose college record is unsatisfactory, any payments made are non-refundable.

Learners already signed up have now made two payments towards the trip. For learners chosing to join the trip now, please see the originally payment structure below.

Туре	Date due	Amount	Total paid	
Deposit	30 th April	100	100	Late joiners make one payment of
2nd instalment	4 th June	250	350	£350 by 1 st September
3rd instalment	4 th October	400	750	
Final instalment	4 th December	400	1150	

For parents that have not had the opportunity to budget for this, we can work with individuals to spread payments out monthly if preferred.

The method of payment will be via your secure online ParentPay account under "2022 Ski Trip" (<u>https://www.parentpay.com</u>) for current learners. If you are joining us in September, please use our bank details for your deposit and second instalment.

N.B. PGL have a Covid Promise: If travel restrictions are still in place 21 days prior to travel, PGL will look at alternative destinations or, if there are no viable alternatives and the trip cannot go ahead, a full refund will be offered.

LDE UTC Bank Details:

Bank Address: Lloyds Bank Plc, PO Box 1000, Andover, BX1 1LT Account Name: London Design & Engineering UTC Account Number: 28079360 Sort Code: 30-92-90

When making payment via the bank, please can you use "2022 ski<child's first name>" as the reference

What do you need to do?

Please complete the <u>registration form here</u>, pay a minimum of £100 deposit and then direct any initial queries to me via email at <u>Victoria.webb@ldeutc.co.uk</u>

Yours faithfully

Mrs Victoria Webb Vice Principal LDE UTC