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Tuesday 1st December 2020

Dear parents/carers,

RE: CLASS 6 KINGSWOOD RESIDENTIAL (07/02/21 - 12/02/21)

Last week, the Government updated their coronavirus guidance for schools. This update contains the following information about overnight educational visits:

'We continue to advise against domestic (UK) overnight educational visits. The Department [for Education] recognises the enormous benefits overnight residential educational visits can provide for children. In February 2021, we will review the possibility of changing our advice for overnight residential education visits to resume from Easter 2021 on the proviso the scientific evidence supports any such change.'

 $\underline{\text{https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools\#educational-visits}$

This means that the re-arranged Kingswood residential trip cannot go ahead as planned between 07/02/21 - 12/02/21.

Although completely understandable in the current climate, this is very disappointing news, not least because lots of time and effort has already gone into moving the Kingswood trip from November 2020 to February 2021.

Through December, I will try to re-schedule the residential visit again and re-arrange it for Term 6 (June/July 2021), either with the same provider or a different company. However, it is very unlikely this will be possible as the summer term is the most popular (and expensive) time of the school year for residential trips and many centres are already full with provisional bookings. Therefore, even though I will try my best to find an alternative, we must be prepared for the residential not going ahead at all.

Making contact with providers is a little tricky at the moment as many centres are closed and staff are furloughed so please bear with us until January when I will update you on our progress. In any case, even if it is possible to re-book the trip for the summer, overnight educational visits may not be allowed to resume from Easter, which would leave us with no further options before the children move on to secondary school.

I have shared this information with Class 6 today and – whilst they were very disappointed – they accepted the news with great understanding and lots of maturity.

Kind regards,

Mr S. Carter

Mr. S. Carter (Headteacher)











Head Teacher: Mr S. Carter Bursar: Ms L. Adey