



**School Aim**  
**To make learning irresistible**

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Dear Parents/Guardians of our Y2 children

### **Castleton Residential Trip 2017**

We recently sent out a letter about a residential trip to Castleton July 2017 for our Year 2 children. This is a trip that has been very successful and rewarding for our children for many years. It would appear that the costings of this trip need further clarification.

The cost of the trip to Castleton is £77.85 per child which includes the coach, the accommodation, meals and all youth hostel led activities over the 2 day period.

We apply to two local companies who provide grant subsidies for children who are in receipt of free school meals and are assuming that this application will be successful as it is each year.

As a school we receive a government grant as an additional amount to our school budget that is money that has to be allocated to children whose families are in receipt of benefits and are considered by the government as 'vulnerable families'. These are called Pupil Premium children. As part of our pupil premium strategy we allocate a portion of this budget in supporting such disadvantaged families in the cost of some trips/residentials. This is seen as good practice by the Local Authority and Government and enables children to access such trips which they may not otherwise be able to do so.

As a school, we hope you'd agree that we have always tried to support all our families as we know only too well how times are tough for everyone; hence we are putting money from a very limited school budget into subsidising at least £17.85 per pupil to try and help keep the cost down. The only way we are offering cheaper rates to Pupil Premium and Free school meal children is because we can use allocated Pupil premium funds and local grant funding. This funding would be unfair to use for all children and would not meet statutory requirements.

As with all our trips we are asking for a voluntary contribution as stated in our charging policy. However if enough contributions are not received, the trip will have to be cancelled as there are no available funds in school budget to cover the additional costs. This is the case for all our trips in school. We will review this trip on the 25<sup>th</sup> November and if there is insufficient interest therefore a lack of guaranteed funds then we will have to cancel. Any deposits will be refunded.

I hope this clarifies the situation but please come and see us if you need any further information.

Please remember we do offer a savings card where we offer a 10% discount for all trips if you save on the card.

This trip is a real quality experience for our children and we only ever aim to give all the children here as many wonderful experiences as we do as part of our daily curriculum.

Yours sincerely

*Rachel Otter*

Rachel Otter  
Head Teacher

