

Oaklands Catholic School and Sixth Form College

Stakes Hill Road
Waterlooville
Hampshire
PO7 7BW

☎ 023 9225 9214

☎ 023 9223 0317

🌐 www.oaklandscatholicschool.org

✉ oaklands@oaklandscatholicschool.org



Headteacher: Matthew Quinn B.Ed (Hons), M.A., NPQH

Edith Stein Catholic Academy Trust
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Our ref: MB

8th January 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Calshot dry slope skiing session(s)

I spoke to you at the ski information evening about the Calshot training sessions. We were not able to go just before Christmas, but I have now booked the sessions. *I must stress that if your child has been on a dry slope/ skied on snow before, they should not apply to come on this trip and you need not read any further.*

Looking at the data that parents provided previously, 48 students have not skied before (i.e. on snow or on a dry ski slope). I want to give every student the opportunity to go, but this will mean running two trips if everyone applies. As such, I have two dates organised – although students would only go on one of the two trips:

1. **Trip 1 – Monday 27th January (28 students).** We are scheduled to ski 15:30 - 17:00, but given the distance, potential traffic and setting up the ski gear before we start, we will leave at 13:45 and return at approximately 18:30.
2. **Trip 2 – Monday 3rd February (20 students).** Same timings as trip 1 above.

I would urge students to have a good breakfast on the day and bring snacks/ water for the activity. Students will come out of period 4 at 13:30 so they can have 15 minutes to eat their lunch before we leave. **Students can wear non-school uniform on the day of the trip** (i.e. what they are going to wear for skiing).

Calshot Activities Centre is housed in a cavernous old aircraft hangar and as a result can be very cold. The Centre has strict rules about what must be worn to ski. Therefore, students need to bring the following:

- ✓ **Gloves** – not necessarily ski gloves, but the hands must be covered.
- ✓ **Warm clothes** – When skiing a t-shirt and sweatshirt should suffice (however, unless you have a long-sleeved t-shirt underneath you will not be able to take your sweatshirt off as your arms cannot be exposed due to the abrasive nature of the slope). **Jeans are not suitable** and I would advise wearing old tracksuit bottoms.
- ✓ **Socks** – skiers must wear long socks (finish just below the knee) as otherwise the ski boots will rub badly.

Not a great deal can be purchased at the centre, so some provisions will be necessary with plenty to drink as skiing can be tiring. As mentioned previously, please ensure sure your child has eaten a good breakfast and had plenty to eat at lunch as skiing is a strenuous activity. I cannot stress highly enough the need to have all the clothing listed above due to the strict rules of Calshot. Failure to bring the appropriate gear will result in your son/ daughter not being allowed to ski. Another thing that will help me is for your child to know how much they **weigh in KG** and their **height in CM** as this will enable the instructors to set up their skis correctly.

Please do not estimate these and ensure that your child is able to tell me/ their instructor their details on the afternoon. You have already provided me with a medical form for the main trip, which I will use for this trip.

The cost of the activity is £26. As this trip is deemed to be an enhancement to the curriculum, the school normally is unable to offer financial assistance and therefore the full cost of the activity must be borne by yourselves. Payment must be made by the deadline date outlined to avoid jeopardising your child's place.

If there are significant changes to the cost of the trip, these may have to be passed on to the student. Be assured that we will try to keep such costs to a minimum. We would advise that students do not to take valuables out on school activities, however, should they be taken parents should ensure personal possessions are adequately insured.

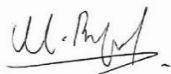
Please fill in this electronic form (click link below – it will take less than two minutes) by Thursday 16th January, so that I can work out who will go on each of the trips. Please pay the £26 by Wednesday 22nd January to confirm your child's place on the trip.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=q510xXSzk6TjW_s7KPIr8tBAQrHeexDmj12oYvFhXdUOE1JOEFDM0tWtk1JMVpTOEdPVTBSNVBaSC4u

Please feel free to email me – m.bamford@oaklandscatholicschool.org – should you have any further questions. As discussed at the information evening, the students have a Ski Trip 2025 'Team' where all previous letters/ files can be found.

Once I have worked out who is going on each of the trips, I will contact you again to confirm the final arrangements.

Yours faithfully,



Mr M Bamford
Assistant Headteacher/ ski trip organiser