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22<sup>nd</sup> April 2025

Dear Parent / Carer,

The Geography Department are delighted to offer students a very exciting opportunity to embark on an overseas field trip to Iceland in the October half term holiday 2026. Iceland is known as the 'Land of Fire and Ice.' An astonishing country with spectacular glaciers, volcanic mountains, wild gorges, stunning waterfalls, Europe's largest wet desert, impressive geysers and a raft of other geothermal features all wrapped up in a centuries-old Norse culture. We ran a very successful trip in October 2024 and would like as many students as possible to experience this wonderful trip again in 2026.

This trip is for students in the current Year 9 (who will be in Year 11 studying for GCSEs by the time of the trip) who have chosen Geography as an option for their GCSEs; for students who are currently in Year 8 (who will be in Year 10 studying for GCSEs by the time of the trip) who have a particular interest in Geography and think they might take it for GCSE; and for current Year 10 and 11 students who are considering taking Geography A Level with us here at King's.

The trip will run in the October half term 2026 from 27<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> October 2026. The sample itinerary is as follows:

Day 1	Keflavík – Reykjanes Peninsula – Overnight Reykjavik
Day 2	Seljalandsfoss – Gljúfrabúi – Sólheimajökull – Dyrhálaey – Overnight Vik
Day 3	Reynisfjara – Vik – Skógafoss – Hveragerði – Overnight Reykjavik
Day 4	Gullfoss – Geysir – Efsti-Dalur – Thingvellir – Overnight Reykjavik
Day 5	Reykjavik city – Keflavík airport

The details of these excursions and locations will be finalised when we book the trip but included in the price will be: a guided glacier walk; a visit to the Golden Circle area including spectacular geysers and the famous Gullfoss Waterfall and stopping to see the Mid-Atlantic Ridge and tectonic plates; a visit to the Lava & Volcano interactive museum; a visit to the South shore and black beaches; and time in the beautiful city of Reykjavik. The Northern Lights are best seen between September and February so we might also be fortunate enough to see these during the trip.

The cost of the trip is between £1370 and £1420. This includes half board accommodation (with packed lunches), all the activities described above and all transport (including coach transfers to and from the school.) The only additional costs will be for optional student spending money. Please note that this is a provisional cost as it is based on a minimum of 60 students attending the trip. The price is based on an estimated flight price as they are not currently on sale; our travel company assure us that in 99% of all cases these flight prices do not increase and we will contact you as soon as possible should additional payments be required.



If you would like your child to attend the trip, please complete the register of interest form on ParentPay by **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2025**. We will make a decision about places on the evening of this day so if you have not completed the item by 3pm on this date your child is unlikely to be considered for the trip. As this is a trip abroad and in the school holiday, we will reserve the right to refuse a place if we have any concerns about a student's behaviour or conduct which might endanger participants on the trip. In the event of this happening, we will contact you to let you know and explain our reasons.

We will contact you the week following the 7<sup>th</sup> February to let you know if your child has a place on the trip. The initial **£150 deposit will then be due by Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025** and will be payable on ParentPay.

The remaining monies will be payable in instalments of £100 and £130 on ParentPay with a variable final instalment dependent on flight costs. There will be 2 separate payment items on ParentPay to cover all the instalments (2627 Part 1 Iceland Trip / 2627 Part 2 Iceland) and the schedule is as follows:

#### Payment Plan part 1

Deposit £150 due 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025

Instalment £100 due 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2025

Instalment £100 due 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2025

Instalment £100 due 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2025

Instalment £100 due 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2025

Instalment £100 due 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2025

#### Payment Plan part 2

Instalment £130 due 9<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Instalment £130 due 9<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Instalment £130 due 9<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Instalment £130 due 9<sup>th</sup> April 2026

Instalment £130 due 9<sup>th</sup> May 2026

Instalment £120 due 9<sup>th</sup> June 2026 (the cost of this final instalment may be reduced depending on the flight cost)

Please note that this is not a curriculum trip and therefore we are unable to offer any financial assistance. However, in the case of financial hardship, you can contact our finance department by emailing [finance@kingsschoolhove.org.uk](mailto:finance@kingsschoolhove.org.uk) in confidence to arrange an alternative payment scheme.

Deposits are non-refundable in the event of withdrawal unless, of course, a replacement pupil can be found. A 5% administration fee will be charged in the event of any withdrawal. Please note also that any withdrawal after the booking of the flights will incur a significant extra cost for the change of the name with the airline, which will have to be met by the withdrawing student. Students will need to have their own passport and a Global Health Insurance Card to travel. If your child does not currently hold their own passport, please apply for one in plenty of time before the Iceland trip (by June 2026).

Please contact me via [p.weir@kingsschoolhove.org.uk](mailto:p.weir@kingsschoolhove.org.uk) if you have any questions.

Kind regards

Ms P Weir

*Head of Geography*