



Headteacher

Erasmus Darwin Academy, Pool Road, Burntwood, Staffordshire, WS7 3QW

Mr P. Walklate BSc(Hons), PGCE, MA, NPQH, NPQEL

T: 01543 685828 E: admin@eda.staffs.sch.uk

October 2026

Dear Families,

Educational Visit: Ski Trip Easter 2027 – Austria

It is proposed to arrange a visit from **Thursday 25th March 2027 to Thursday 1st April 2027**. The visit is open to students who are in **Year 9 to Year 13** and will be on WisePay for all students of those cohorts. The visit will give students the chance to either learn to ski or further enhance their skiing ability at an excellent ski resort with lots of opportunities.

This visit is an optional extra and supports the school curriculum. No student will miss any compulsory or statutory element of their education if they do not attend. Our visits look to provide opportunity for our students to develop curriculum knowledge, cultural appreciation, character building and highlight career opportunities.

This is an all-inclusive visit including executive travel (by coach and ferry) to and from the resort, 5 nights dinner, bed and breakfast in a hotel (specific information on the hotel to be provided at a later date), hire of ski equipment including helmets, 5 hours of ski instruction per day, hot lunch on the piste and evening entertainment. Students will need their own valid passport with at least 6 months of validity after the date of return (this is correct at the time of writing this letter – should there be any changes to this we will communicate them to you). Insurance for the visit will be provided by the Academy's comprehensive travel insurance policy.

Whilst travelling to and from resort, students will be supervised at all times by Academy staff. Whilst on the piste in ski-school and during lunchtimes, students will be supervised by qualified ski instructors. Academy staff will also supervise students at all other times throughout the visit.

All students will need clothing and equipment on the equipment list (the equipment list will be provided later) suitable for the time of year and length of the visit.

Advance warning is needed of any students with special medical or other needs to ensure all health and safety considerations have been made. Parents must inform the school of any relevant medical or other needs on the visit consent form. As it is a residential course, we will require a Code of Conduct form and an Academy Medical Form to be completed not more than fourteen days prior to the start of the visit. Notification of dietary needs for sound medical, ethical, or religious reasons must also be made.

The cost of the visit will be **£1300** and will be limited to a **maximum of 43 places, in the first instance**. This is required to be paid in the following instalments and will be **live on WisePay from Friday 16th October 2026**:

- First non-refundable deposit £150 (Due by Friday 30th October)
- Second non-refundable deposit £250 (Due by Friday 27th November)
- Third non-refundable deposit £150 (Due by Friday 18th December)
- Remaining balance of £750 non-refundable (Due by Friday 5th February)





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To reserve a place on this visit please logon to WisePay (links on the Academy website) and make payment of the first **non-refundable deposit amount of £150**. **The visit will go live at 7:00am on Friday 16th October 2026**. Our reasoning for a short period between letter and launch is to enable families to make an initial payment prior to summer but also to prevent large costs in a short period of time between September and January. We hope you understand.

Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. If all initial places are taken, please sign up to our waiting list. This will give your child the best opportunity to replace any students who drop off the visit.

Where students have siblings also in the Year 9 to Year 13 category who also wish to attend the visit, please contact visits@eda.staffs.sch.uk prior to launch date so we can support you in providing opportunity to all students.

Please be aware of the following information regarding the number of places available for the visit.

- As we will be travelling on a single-decked coach the minimum number of places available is 40 with a maximum of 43 students. Therefore, the initial number of places available will be 40 on a first come, first served basis. Any students above this number wishing to go on the visit will be placed on a waiting list. If all the places are secured and you wish to place your child on the waiting list, please email visits@eda.staffs.sch.uk stating 'Ski 2027 Waiting List' and your child's full name.

Once you have reserved your child's place, you will receive more information regarding further deposits and payments. Please note, once a place on an educational visit is allocated, it is not possible for refunds to be paid if the student does not attend for any reason. If you wish to cancel the place you will be liable for any monies due in line with the Tour Operators cancellation charges and where applicable for medical reasons an insurance claim can be raised. By paying the deposit of the visit to the school you will be liable to pay the total amount unless otherwise stated. If payments are not made by the deadlines stated, then the place will be cancelled on your behalf and any monies paid to date may be lost in line with the Tour Operators cancellation charges. **If you wish to remove your child from the visit this MUST be communicated in writing by emailing visits@eda.staffs.sch.uk with a detailed explanation.**

There will be a second and third non-refundable deposit amounts of a set sum to follow the initial deposit amount. You will also receive more details about the visit, and you will be invited to a parents' meeting for you to meet the staff going on the visit and to be informed of the practicalities of the visit.

Students wishing to go on this visit need to have a record of good behaviour and demonstrate that they can obey safety and other rules. If the Academy becomes concerned that your child's attendance on this visit may be a risk to their own well-being and safety, or that of others, we reserve the right to withdraw your child from the visit and any monies paid will be subject to the Tour Operators cancellation charges being covered. When removing a student from a visit, the academy will follow our visit removal policy and both parent/carers and child will be informed. We do hold the right to remove a child up to the day of the visit following serious behaviour.

If you require any further information on this visit, please do not hesitate to contact me at the Academy.





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Yours faithfully

Mr S Smith

Educational Visits Coordinator

s.smith@eda.staffs.sch.uk

