



Portobello High School

Residential Opportunities Session 2017/18

As many of you will know, Portobello High School has run a Suspended Timetable during the last week of the summer term for a number of years. This allows a variety of excursions and activities to take place to benefit our young people in a number of ways.

We are keen to ensure that these opportunities continue in a sustainable and inclusive way. Following feedback from parents, young people and staff, we will be making a number of changes to arrangements for the coming year. First of all, the Suspended Timetable week will be moved to the end of May and will take place during the last week before the school changes timetable and young people move up a year. As well as ensuring that time for learning after the change of timetable is maximised, this means that we will be able to target our younger learners and offer an activity to everyone in S1-3. For some, this will be a residential trip, for others this will be a range of activities offered in school or on a day trip basis. Senior pupils will still be on SQA Study Leave, though they may still volunteer to assist with in school activities during that week, depending on their other commitments.

In order to allow parents to consider whether they would like their young person to take part in a residential excursion and to allow instalments to be paid over a longer period of time, please find attached details of the residential experiences which will run as part of Suspended Timetable during this session and details of how to apply. Details of the school-based programme will be shared nearer the time. Please note that the school operates an Inclusion Fund which aims to make sure that opportunities are available to all our young people. Enquiries will be handled in confidence and should be addressed to Mrs Williamson, DHT, in the first instance.

Yours sincerely,

Ruth McKay

Portobello High School Residential Trips 2017- 2018 Overview

Trips will be advertised through the Key Adult Group daily notices and in the Parental weekly update. Detailed information forms would then be available from the trip leader and notes of interest should be returned by the given date. This however does not guarantee a place. Should a proposed excursion be over-subscribed, a ballot will be used secure a booking. At this point a deposit will be requested.

Please note the trips below are currently in the planning stage and changes to the itinerary or costs may be required.

Name of trip	Brief Details	Estimated cost
Spain (City Break)	Flying to a Madrid in Spain, the group will spend 4 nights full board, accommodated in a central hotel. Pupils will be encouraged to use their Spanish language skills during visits to local markets and other places of interest. An introduction to Spanish culture and food will run throughout the trip. There will also be an opportunity to visit a theme park. 28 May – 1 June 2018	£500
France (Paris)	Travelling by bus and ferry, this visit to Paris will last 5 days / 4 nights, accommodated in a hotel with full board. The excursion will incorporate visits to many of the major tourist attractions in Paris including a trip to Disneyland Paris. Pupils will be expected to use their French language skills during their stay. 28 May – 1 June 2018	£500
London	By rail from Edinburgh to London, this 3 day trip gives pupils the chance to visit famous landmarks in the City and enjoy time around London theatre land. Two West End musical shows will be included in the cost of the trip. Accommodation will be in a hotel and all meals paid for. 28 May – 1 June 2018 (TBC)	£320 approx.
Blackpool Pleasure Beach	This excursion takes pupils by bus from Edinburgh to Blackpool where time will be spent over 3 days and 2 nights on the Pleasure Beach, at the Tower and Madam Tussauds. Accommodation is on a bed and breakfast basis in a hotel. 28 May 2018 - 30 May 2018 (TBC)	£200
Spain (Salou)	This 8 day trip by air to Salou in the south of Spain, incorporates visits to Portaventura, an Aqua park, a catamaran trip and a Jeep Safari trip to the mountains. Accommodation will be in a hotel and food will be provided throughout the stay. 26 May 2018 - 2 June 2018	£720
Lagganlia (S6 only)	Weekend trip to Lagganlia for S6 pupils. As well as bonding / leadership opportunities this fun weekend will also offer a range of outdoor activities. Date to be confirmed at a later stage.	£70