



Billingshurst Primary School
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Monday 16th November 2020

To: Parents and Carers of Year 6 children – Blacklands Farm Residential

Dear Parents and Carers

Our Year 6 residential to Blacklands Farm is a highlight of the year and a highlight of the children's time at Billingshurst Primary School. Unfortunately, last year, the trip could not take place because of the pandemic, which was a great sadness to us all.

This year, uncertainty remains. We can all hope that the pandemic will be over by then and we sincerely hope that it will be but, unfortunately there are no certainties. We need to make a decision and I need to be upfront with you about the costs and the risks so that, together, we can make the decision whether it is viable to plan for this trip to go ahead.

The cost per pupil will be around the £300 mark but will not yet be definite until we have coach costs, final residential and insurance costs. We were fortunate to be able to refund the full cost of the trip last year, minus the deposit which will be repaid when the insurance claim is completed. This year, there will be no cover from West Sussex for a residential that does not go ahead because of COVID-19. This means that, should the visit need to be cancelled, the deposit could not be refunded. The deposit is also higher this year.

In order for the trip to be financially viable, we need 70 children to participate. I am therefore asking whether you would be prepared to commit to your child going with the following conditions:

- A £35 deposit would need to be paid and would be non-refundable. The deposit will need to be paid this term.
- The full cost of the visit would need to be paid by the end of March
- Parents receiving Free School Meals benefit would pay half the deposit and half the final cost. The deposit would also be non-refundable and need to be paid this term

We are really keen for the Year 6 children to have this wonderful experience which always offers them so much, particularly as they approach secondary school. In order to know whether this is viable, please would you respond to the <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/KDJ3B7F> to indicate that you would be prepared to sign up for the trip under these conditions, or that you would not.

Please could you respond by 4pm on Friday 20th November 2020.

Yours sincerely

Helen Williamson
Headteacher

