



# BROOKVALE GROBY LEARNING CAMPUS

Valuing Everyone, Achieving Excellence

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14 June 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

## Geography Field Trip - Iceland, 10th - 14th March 2025

(For current Year 7 students, who will be in Year 8 at the time of the trip)

For many years, the Geography Department has organised highly successful and enjoyable residential visits to Iceland for our Year 8 students. We would like to offer this opportunity to students currently in Year 7, who will be moving into Year 8 in September 2024.

Iceland offers the opportunity to study glaciers, hot springs and geysers, volcanoes, lava flows, ash deserts, mighty rivers, thundering waterfalls and stunning coastlines. This trip will support our Year 8 units on 'Tectonic Hazards' and 'Renewable Energy' and any student considering taking geography for GCSE.

The 2025 trip will include:

### Accommodation:

- 2 nights in Reykjavík - Hotel Cabin or similar
- 2 nights in the countryside - Hotel Vatnsholt or similar
- Full board basis - from dinner on the first day to breakfast on the last (depending on flight time)

### New activities for 2025:

- **Visit to a lava tunnel in Reykjavík** - Enter through a narrow cave to a world of fascinating colours and lava formations. These caverns are created when surface lava hardens but fluid lava continues to flow in tubes underneath. In addition, see stalactites and other unique rock formations. Be prepared for an adventure as the terrain underfoot is uneven and the ceiling height constantly changes in this organic structure.
- **Glacier walk** - This trip takes you on an exploration of the frozen glacier tongue of Solheimajokull on the Myrdalsjokull ice field. A wonderland of ice sculptures, ridges and deep crevasses await your discovery. An experienced glacier guide will teach your group how to use basic ice equipment, crampons and ice axes.
- **A visit to The Secret Lagoon** - A man-made pool fed by naturally occurring hot springs located at Hverahólmi, the geothermal area next to the village of Flúðir in southern Iceland. It is the oldest pool in the country, and one of the most popular for locals and tourists alike. Vaðmálhver, Básahver, or Litli Geysir (active geyser which spouts every few minutes, showing off for the guests), provide 100% of the water supply in the lagoon.

There are 40 spaces available to current Year 7s 2024. The **approximate** cost of the trip per child is **£1,170** at this stage. This cost includes flights, accommodation, insurance, tours (sample itinerary attached) and meals on a half-board basis with some packed lunches. Some additional spending money will be required each day for any additional food students might want and additional evening activities (roughly £10 per day).

### Proposed Itinerary:

Please see the following website for information about some of the locations we will visit

Day 1	Keflavik – Reykjanes peninsula drive by, quick stop if time permits - Lava Tunnel – Overnight Hotel Cabin
Day 2	Seljalandsfoss – Gljúfrabúi – Sólheimajökull with a Glacier Walk 1 pm – Hveragerði - Overnight Farm Vatnsholt
Day 3	Dyrhólaey – Reynisfjara – Vík – Loftsalir – Skógafoss – Overnight Farm Vatnsholt
Day 4	Secret Lagoon - Gullfoss – Geysir – Thingvellir – Overnight Hotel Cabin
Day 5	Direct transfer Reykjavík – (no packed lunches) - Keflavik airport.

<https://www.discover-the-world.com/study-trips/iceland-highlights/>

### **Behaviour and Attendance thresholds before being accepted onto the trip:**

As you will appreciate that on a residential trip like this, so far away from home, the staff will be concerned about behaviour and supervision. It would be wrong to put staff into a position where they have to deal with serious cases of bad and challenging behaviour. **The campus will consider a student's behaviour, including any exclusions, and attendance in line with the Educational Visits Policy and may NOT allow a student to attend the trip.** These factors will be monitored and we reserve the right to withdraw a place at any time.

I am sure you will understand the necessity for this approach and support the campus in doing so. Please discuss this with your child so you are all fully aware of the actions we will be taking if necessary.

If your child is successful please ensure that they have a valid passport with at least 6 months remaining after departure date in order to travel. **We will collect Passport details just after the summer break.** Currently there are no COVID-19 related travel restrictions for Iceland.

For any further information please do not hesitate to contact your child's Geography teacher or myself – [lseaton@brookvalegroby.com](mailto:lseaton@brookvalegroby.com).

### **How to request a place:**

If you wish for your child to be considered for a place, **please make the deposit payment of £170 on Arbor via the School Shop Payment Item - Iceland 2025 Trip Deposit by Friday 28th June 2024.** You will be notified if your child is successful during July 2024.

### **Approximate Payment Schedule** (price may vary depending on airlines)

The **total cost is £1,170** subject to a minimum number of students participating.

Payment 1 - **Deposit £170 by Friday 28th June 2024 on Arbor as a Payment Items**

Payment 2 - £200 by September ongoing instalments will be set up on **Arbor/Activities/Trips**

Payment 3 - £200 by October

Payment 4 - £200 by November

Payment 5 - £200 by December

Payment 6 - £200 by January 2025

## Payment Information

Any and all refunds are at the discretion of BGLC, depending on the circumstances for each case.

In general:

- This deposit is to show **commitment** to the trip and for us to ensure we have sufficient paying numbers
- Deposits will be returned in the event that the trip is over-subscribed and a student is not successful in gaining a place or if there is insufficient interest to run.
- Deposits will be non-refundable if the trip is successful and your child's place is confirmed, unless the place can be filled by another student or your child is not allocated a place. Once a place is confirmed, if you withdraw your child from the trip for any reason, refunds will be at the discretion of the school.

## Ongoing Arrangements:

- **Allocation of places** - these will not be allocated until after the deadline for deposit payments has passed.
- **Criteria for allocation of places** - if the residential is over-subscribed in the first instance preference will be given, in this order, those who have fewest behaviour points and then names will be drawn from a hat. Students who have exclusions are not eligible to apply for this trip.
- **Confirmation of places** - once places are confirmed as per the criteria, Parents/Carers will be notified by email as to whether or not their child has been successful in gaining a place.
- **Ongoing instalments** - for Students with confirmed a place, payments for ongoing instalments will be set up in line with the payment schedule on **Arbor/Activities/Trips**.
- **Meeting Pre-Departure** - Parents /Carers and Students will be invited to an evening meeting in school in the two weeks before the visit in order to outline specific details, provide passports and meet with staff involved.

Yours sincerely

*L Seaton*

Miss L Seaton, *Head of Geography*