

Swanmore C.E. (Aided) Primary School

3rd July 2018

Dear Parents

I am writing to give you the dates for the residential visits for the academic year 2018/2019:

Year 4 Minstead	8 th – 10 th October and 10 th – 12 th October 2018
Year 5 Swanage	7 th – 10 th May 2019 (Both classes together)
Year 6 Wales	25 th February – 1 st March and 4 th – 8 th March 2019

At Swanmore Primary School we believe that our residential programme provides these benefits:

- developing key skills such as greater independence, self-reliance, communication, and working co-operatively;
- developing social education and citizenship, eg building relationships, learning to tolerate others and respect each other's views;
- promoting education for sustainable development, eg an appreciation of the natural world.
- promoting health and fitness and a positive use of leisure time.

In response to parental requests we have decided to give advance notice of the approximate cost of each visit to help you plan your financial expenditure for the year. We predict that the costs will be as follows:

Year 4 Minstead, New Forest	£150.00
Year 5 Swanage, Dorset	£210.00
Year 6 Brecon Beacons, Wales	£230.00

Please note that this is an approximate guide as the cost of a visit may vary from year to year according to the size of the year group, varying transport costs or the adult supervision needed.

All our residential visits are non-profit making. Although contributions to school trips are voluntary if insufficient contributions are received unfortunately the trip maybe cancelled. Our costs include transport (coach for Years 4 and 5 and minibuses for Year 6), accommodation, staffing and instruction, equipment hire (Year 6), catering and refreshments, entry charges to facilities and pre-visit costs.

PAYMENT CARD

We have attached a payment card to this letter so that you can make weekly or monthly payments on a regular basis towards your child/children's visits. Please send any payments to school from the second week of next term marked "Residential Visit Payments". If you would like to pay when the exact costs are known, you will be informed of the details a few months before each visit.

Support is available to families who have financial difficulties. Please may I ask you to check your eligibility for free school meals, following the link: <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/caterers>. Those parents who are entitled would be eligible for assistance in meeting the cost of school trips. Please contact either myself or Mrs Bush if you need help.

Our residential experiences are an important part of the curriculum and we are keen that all our children have these opportunities.

We hope you find this information useful and that your children are looking forward to their residential experiences next year.

Yours sincerely

Tony Hughes
Offsite Visits Co-ordinator