

January 2018

Dear Parent / Carer,

Your child's year group has been given the opportunity to spend a week at Blairvadach Outdoor Centre between **Monday 14th and Friday 18th of May 2018**. The week combines a range of outdoor activities with a residential stay in a purpose-built education centre on the East shore of the Gare Loch, near Helensburgh.

The activity-based programme brings pupils together to learn skills in their chosen outdoor activity as well as dealing with relevant matters such as safety, communication and working with others. Whilst offering opportunities to develop skills in outdoor activities, the courses also embrace the four capacities of a Curriculum for Excellence. Pupils will usually participate in their chosen activity throughout the day. In the evening, the duty instructor will provide further group activities whilst staff from Hyndland Secondary School will provide pastoral support.

There will be a range of daytime activities on offer, these usually include rock climbing and scrambling, sailing, trail biking, kayaking, hill walking and gorge walking. It has been normal practice for pupils to participate in the same activity for the week to allow development of a significant skill level in their chosen activity. However, there may be the opportunity to participate in a mixed programme of activities.

Specialist clothing and equipment for all activities will be provided by the centre.

Any pupil wishing to participate in a water based activity should be able to swim. Pupils who are non-swimmers or are particularly lacking in confidence in the water should only opt to take part in a land-based activity. All pupils should have a reasonable level of fitness as there are significant physical demands to the course.

Glasgow pupils receive a subsidised place at Blairvadach so the cost for the week is £178 with a reduced charge of £81 for pupils in receipt of a clothing grant or free school meals. This charge covers all of the activities, residential accommodation, three meals per day and coach transfers to and from Blairvadach.

Public Rate	Glasgow School Pupils	
5 day 4 night residential	Standard Subsidised Rate	Pupils in receipt of free school meals and / or clothing allowance
£357.50 per person	£178.00 per person	£81.00 per person

Please complete and return the attached reply slip directly to Mr Hall no later than **Friday 9th February** if you would like your child to be considered for a place.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any queries regarding any aspect of the course.

More detailed information about the centre, accommodation and activities can be found at www.blairvadach.org.uk/

Yours Sincerely,

Mr J. Hall
Teacher of Physical Education
Hyndland Secondary

Please consider my child for a place on the Outdoor Education Residential Course at Blairvadach:

Pupil Name _____

PST Class **and** Tutor Name _____

Signature of Parent/Carer _____

I agree to my child participating in water-based activities

Preferred activity:

Please **clearly** identify your first and second choice by entering number 1 and 2 in the table below:

Hill Walking/ Scrambling	Kayaking/ Canoeing	Trail biking	Sailing	Rock Climbing

Places are both **very** limited and extremely sought after so a speedy response is vital. This return does not guarantee a place and is an expression of interest only.

Please return completed forms to Mr Hall no later than Friday 9th February 2018.