



**HERMITAGE
ACADEMY**

Hermitage Academy
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Dear Parents,

The world has changed since the ski trip to Italy was cancelled. Even though at that time, it was very clear that dangerous things were happening, I think it is safe to say, that none of us dreamt that this virus would have claimed the lives of over one million people worldwide and that the repercussions would be so dreadful and not yet in the past.

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office is currently advising British nationals against all non-essential international travel for an indefinite period. This is a further change from 'until December 2020' in recent publications, reflecting the gravity of our situation.

We have been working behind the scenes with SkiTeam4, the ski company and it is clear that there are now no viable options open to us, other than cancelling this trip altogether. We are deeply sorry for the distress that this will undoubtedly cause and the great disappointment.

We have not taken this decision lightly and it is not what any of us had hoped for. We can only say, that should travel again become a possibility for school groups in the future, then your children, if still in school, will have the first choice to travel.

The ski company have significant cancellation fees, which the trust will pay in these unique circumstances and we would like to offer you a £759.00 refund. This will be refunded via a BACS transfer and a form has been posted out to you today to complete and return either by post or email to enquiries@hermitageacademy.co.uk.

We are sorry that we could not communicate this information directly to your child in person, however, current COVID guidance would make this very difficult to happen. We know they will be disappointed and so very much hope that one day, we will be able to resume our full programme of extra-curricular trips and activities.

With very kind regards

Dr Janice Gorch
Executive Headteacher/Deputy CEO