

## **Spotlight on School Trips and Experiences**

Dear Families,

It has been wonderful this year to see children across Woodhill enjoying school visits, workshops and experiences. This year, leaders have worked with teams to ensure that there is equity of offer for all our children across the school and also that we are mindful of the cost of these experiences for our families. With this being said, we wanted to give you some more detail about this piece of work, which will strengthen moving into next year, and also give you the opportunity to give us any feedback.

### **Why are school trips and experiences so important?**

We know that nothing compares to the first-hand experiences that allow children to see, touch and explore the world around them. As a school, we place great importance on experiential learning both inside and outside of the classroom, and ensure that this is woven throughout our whole curriculum. Whether it be visiting historical sites, exploring natural wonders, or observing scientific phenomena, these immersive experiences foster a deeper understanding and long-lasting memories. Children are more able to grasp complex ideas in a tangible and meaningful way.

School trips also contribute significantly to the development of social skills and interpersonal relationships. When children step outside their familiar school environment, they are presented with opportunities to interact with their peers in new contexts. Collaborative activities, teamwork challenges and shared experiences foster the development of communication skills, cooperation, empathy and respect.

We also see that trips and experiential learning promotes independence and personal growth. Children are encouraged to take responsibility for their actions, make decisions and navigate unfamiliar territories. Exposure to different cultures, traditions, and ways of life nurtures children's curiosity and promotes a global perspective, something that is integral to our global curriculum.

Finally, school trips and experiential learning ignite a sense of excitement and enthusiasm for learning. It is important to us that children are motivated to become lifelong learners with a thirst for knowledge.

### **Our offer as a school**

#### **An exciting, global Curriculum**

Our global curriculum means that experiential learning and exciting experiences are daily occurrences in the classrooms and woven throughout, across all subjects. Teachers make lessons practical, hands-on and motivating. Workshops and visitors are regularly invited in to enhance the curriculum.



### **Termly local visits linked to the curriculum**

All children will go on a local visit, within walking distance, at least once a term. This will

ensure that all the great things our local area offers are experienced, for example this may be a visit to the park, library, local shops/market, experiences at local schools or nature walks. The majority of these visits will be free.

### **Termly visits on transport to the curriculum**

Each term, all children will also go on a trip outside of their locality and will mean using transport. We are fortunate that we have all the amazing things that London has to offer at our fingertips, and want to make the most of this, as well as opportunities to leave the city. Some of these visits might have a small cost attached.

*Within each phase, we ensure that children experience the following:*

- A visit to a place of worship each year, ensuring all religions within the curriculum are included
- A visit to an art gallery or art workshop from a visitor
- Taking part in a sporting event/competition or visit to a sporting event
- A visit to a live performance or drama workshop from a visitor
- The chance to watch live music or a music workshop from a visitor

### **Enriching experiences**

In addition to the above, we also want to provide the children with experiences that are enriching and also just fun! These experiences may have a larger cost attached, but please see our pledge below for how we will make this as easy for families as possible. Our offer for next year is as follows:

EYFS: Splash Park and Farm  
KS1: Beach and London Zoo  
LKS2: London Eye and School sleepover  
UKS2: Week long School journey and theater visit

### **Our pledge to communication and in keeping costs down**

It is very important to us to ensure that anything we plan does not put any stress or pressure onto our families. This is why we will ensure the below:

- Timely communication for any school visit of at least 3 weeks in advance. School visits or experiences that have a cost attached will be communicated sooner.
- Ensuring value for money and making sure we get the best deal for our families. We will often work as a Greenwich Hub group of schools to share costs, as well as carefully consider the time of year to book, obtain quotes from various companies and only use coaches when absolutely necessary. It is great that in London public transport is free for school groups.





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- Payment plans offered for all trips that have a cost attached. We will always try to ensure that costs are kept as low as possible and the majority of trips are free. The enriching experiences for each year group will be the only trips where costs will be higher than £15. For these visits, we will ensure longer payment plans and good communication.

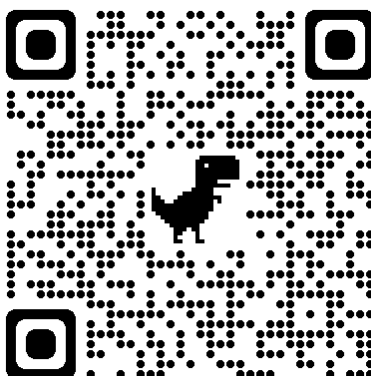
Please see our school website for our Educational Visits Policy which has more details around trips, including health and safety considerations.

[Educational Visits Policy](#)

### **We value your feedback!**

We really do value feedback from our families as this helps us to plan out our offer and ensure that it works for you and the children. Please complete the Google Form on the link below if you would like to give us any feedback about this year's trip and experience offer, or have any feedback that will help with our offer moving forwards.

<https://forms.gle/ocXevz5eLNjiwajr9>



In the meantime, do also have a look at our Twitter page [@WoodhillSch](#) where you will find all the photos from this year's trip and experience offer from across the school.

Best Wishes

Mr O Phillips  
Headteacher

