



Jennett's Park CE Primary School

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Regarding Outward bound Visit March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers.

We have received this week confirmation from the Outward Bound Trust that our experience with them which was initially planned for September and then postponed to March, has had to be cancelled. The Year 6 Team and I are as disappointed as you are but supportive of the decision.

Please read the letter below in its entirety. We thought this was the clearest way to help you understand the centre's choices. Our next steps are on the following page.

Dear Mrs Savage,

It is with much regret that I must let you know that at Outward Bound we have taken the tough decision to decide now that we will not be able to offer residentials during January to the end of March. We have been following the national guidance continually and have been reviewing the possible further changes which might happen, including the DfE continuing to recommend no overnight residentials.

We will therefore be cancelling your forthcoming booking with us for the spring term of 2021. Please be assured that this decision is not based on a need to reduce our costs and nor does it suggest a threat to the future of Outward Bound as a charity. We are currently running residential courses for our Early Careers clients, working with young people in employment, as guidance permits this to happen.

In fact we are actively now looking at an alternative option for your young people to still benefit from an Outward Bound experience through a fantastic new programme where we [bring adventure to your school](#) during the autumn and spring. This is partly funded through the generous support of our donors and allows us to retain the relationship with your school. We will be in touch very soon to see if we can make this possible with your school. Plus of course we are still taking residential bookings at all centres for April 2021 onwards.

With current guidance in Scotland, England and Wales advising schools not to run residential programmes during the autumn, and with no clear advice on when this will be updated, or what it will say, we've made this decision now in order to give you and us some certainty around your planning for the new year. Should this guidance change and allow residentials to resume, we will review our decision.

Next steps, there are a few options available to you. We will follow up by phone and email to confirm our next steps together, however you can help by giving us an indication of your preference by replying to this email with how you would like to proceed;

A: Send your instructors to the school

B: Postpone

C: Transfer monies paid to an existing future booking



D: Full refund

I am once again so very sorry we have had to take this decision and remain committed to working with you at one of our centres as soon as possible.

*Kind regards
Outward bound*

Next steps

We know the transformative power of residential for children. Over the next fortnight our school staff will plan alternatives for you to choose from. We will of course honour anyone's choice to have a full refund but would like a little time to plan before you make that choice.

Help we need at the moment is quick/ practical solutions that we consider that you have heard of to supplement the initial ideas we've had. Mr Page and Mrs Ballard will chat to the children next week in depth. We have told the children today and know that the children although disappointed are eager to have a solution for the most memorable and safe experiences possible. We will have our plan ready for you to choose from by the 16th October.

Thank you for your understanding.

Yours sincerely



Elizabeth Savage
Headteacher

