



# THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL ABERDEEN

Every Child. Every Opportunity.

Dear Parents,

Throughout the year students will be able to attend a variety of field trips that support their classroom learning, development of personal skills or form part of an extracurricular program. These experiences greatly enrich a student's time at ISA and are often the memories of school that stay with them the longest.

The purpose of this letter is to give an outline of these activities and an approximate idea of costs to assist with your planning. At the start of the year, general permission letters and codes of conduct are signed and teachers will assume attendance on a trip unless parents specifically opt out when they receive details of the activity.

## **Curricular Trips**

### Middle School –

Day trips are planned to support the curriculum or build students' interpersonal skills. Parents are required to cover the costs of transport and admission to any venue being visited.

In the Autumn, all of Grade 6 spend four days/three nights at an outdoor education centre. Students in Grades 7 and 8 will have the option of participating in an Outwards Bounds program (with priority for places given to Grade 8 students). The costs for these trips will be in the region of £350 and £450 respectively. Members of Grades 7 and 8 not travelling will be expected to be involved in the program of day-long activities at an estimated cost of £150.

### High School –

Day trips are planned to support the curriculum or build students' interpersonal skills. Parents are required to cover the costs of transport and admission to any venue being visited.

During the course of the year each of Grades 9, 10 and 11 will have a week-long trip. The cost will be in the region of £500-£800 depending on destination and activities. In the past, trips have run to London, Edinburgh, Belgium and Prague. The Belgium and London trips developed what was being taught in classes and the Prague and Edinburgh programs were tailored to support the CAS program. During the trip the high school is closed to the travelling class with no lessons taking place.

Grade 12 Biology and Environmental Systems and Societies students attend a field centre near the start of that academic year. This is a residential trip with 2 nights away from Aberdeen. They learn a wide range of fieldwork techniques and accumulate data that will help them with Internal Assessments in those subjects. The cost of the trip is subsidised slightly by the school and is between £150-£200.

[www.isa.aberdeen.sch.uk](http://www.isa.aberdeen.sch.uk)

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## **Extracurricular Trips (Optional)**

### Model United Nations –

This club is open to students in Grades 9 to 12 and develops traits such as international mindedness and skills such as public speaking and debating. MUN events can be hosted by schools in Scotland and each year the school sends a delegation to Leiden. The cost of this trip to the Netherlands is in the region of £600.

### Sports Teams –

Students in both Middle and High school have the opportunity to train with one of several ISA sports teams. ISA hosts some tournaments but many end of season events involving other international schools will be held outside of Scotland. Locations in the past have included London, Lisbon and Stavanger with travel costs ranging from £100-£300 depending on venue and time of year. Students are typically hosted by families of the school they are visiting and there is an expectation that ISA parents will reciprocate when teams visit Aberdeen.

### Duke of Edinburgh –

Students in Grade 9 and above can participate in the Duke of Edinburgh Award. We work with an external provider, Go For Gold, to ensure students are in very good hands for the expedition section of their award. Fees for the program cover registration and the costs of Go For Gold's services and will vary according to the level of award being taken. It includes the loan of tents and stoves. In addition to the training and planning sessions each award comprises a practice and qualifying expedition. At Bronze these are 2 days-1 night, Silver 3 days-2 nights, Gold 4 days-3 nights. Total costs at the Bronze level are typically in the region of £300.

## **Other Optional Costs**

### Language Trips

In alternative years a French or Spanish language trip is offered to students in Grades 10 to 12. Students are hosted in France or Spain immersing themselves in the language. This is an optional trip with classes continuing in the student's absence. The trip typically runs in January with a cost of £700-£900 and requires at least 10 students for it to be viable.

### Examinations

Registration and examination fees for the IB are included as part of our annual fees. However, the IGCSEs at the end of Grade 10 are optional for students and there is an associated cost. At present this is £80 per subject entered.

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