



CHESSWOOD JUNIOR SCHOOL

Home of Bright Sparks

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Tuesday, 30 June 2020

Year 4 Carrotty Wood residential – September 2020

Dear Parent,

After lengthy consideration we have made the difficult decision to cancel the Year 4 residential to Carrotty Wood in September.

In making this decision, we have had to consider:

- the potential health risks for our pupils and staff
- mitigating the financial loss to the school which in all likelihood would not be covered by school insurance.
- the proportion of pupils attending the school visit which was less than 50% of the cohort
- anxieties that some families may have felt about children attending a residential so soon after the return in September following such a long period of lock down
- the very high priority of accelerating children's learning progress as far and as fast as possible from September.

We have explored transferring the booking into the Spring/Summer term at this venue but this has not been possible due to other school bookings. This trip is cancelled, therefore we have no plans for any alternative overnight stay. The next opportunity for a residential for this year group will be the Y6 Bristol residential visit. We understand that there will be a very wide range of views from families regarding this decision from significant disappointment regarding the trip cancellation to genuine relief. We are therefore aware that far from everyone will support the decision taken but hope all will recognise that, as ever, we have explored every reasonable option and have taken a reasoned decision based on the options available, and the very real need to prioritise reading, writing and maths development for all children, ahead of other areas of the curriculum. It is certainly a case of taking the 'least worst' decision rather than the 'best', and you can be assured we have not taken this lightly.

You will be entitled to a full refund of the monies you have paid to date, including the deposit. An email will be sent confirming the amount you have paid and how the refund will be made to you. Please bear with us as we make these arrangements as it will be quite a task to undertake.

Should you have any queries about this please contact our Trip Co-Ordinator, Mrs Brown on kbrown@chesswood.w-sussex.sch.uk.

Yours sincerely,