



1 May 2019

S1 Outdoor Learning Experience 2019 – cancellation of trips

Dear Parent/Carer

Regrettably we are having to cancel further S1 outdoor learning experiences this week as our online submission for approval from Highlife Highland was not made within the required timescale. For adventurous activities to take place it is a requirement that young people are accompanied by appropriately qualified instructors and despite having secured the services of two accredited Mountain Leaders in February 2019 we were still awaiting confirmation of their PVG (Protection of Vulnerable Groups) status, also a requirement, at the time of the deadline. The system being electronic, it was not possible to submit our excursion planning without this information.

Submissions must be made ten days before planned trips are due to take place. Our submission was made as soon as we received PVG clearance – on Tuesday 23rd April - but our trips have not been approved as our submission was less than ten days in advance of the first trip taking place. This is very upsetting for all concerned as the S1 Badaguish trip has run at Millburn Academy for more than thirty years but despite our best efforts to find a solution, we do not have authority to continue with the trips. Please accept our apologies for the inconvenience and for the disappointment.

Class groups 1.3 and 1.4 will be returning to school this morning with the coach due to arrive at Millburn Academy by 12 noon. They will be returning to class and dismissed at the end of the school day at 1540 rather than the trip return time of 1715. Please contact us if your child requires to be taken home by school minibus in view of having trip luggage.

We have rescheduled day 2 of your child's trip for Wednesday 12 June 2019 and will be in touch with final arrangements shortly.

Once again, our sincere apologies.

Yours sincerely

Jonathan Croall
Rector

Kerry E Sinclair
Depute Rector