

# Oaklands Catholic School and Sixth Form College

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Executive Headteacher: Richard Cunningham BA (Jt Hons), PGCE (Cantab), MSc, CMgr, FCMI  
Head of School: Amy Bonnington BA (Hons), PGCE, MA

Edith Stein Catholic Academy Trust  
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)  
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Our Ref: MB

5<sup>th</sup> December 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

## Year 9, 10 and Sixth Form Ski Trip to Bormio, Italy – February 2027

For over thirty years we have organised skiing trips for Year 9 and Sixth Form students; these have proved to be very popular. We are now planning a similar event for February 2027 following a successful trip in 2025. We will be going to a new resort in 2027, but we will still be staying in Italy. We have chosen Bormio – the Olympic downhill race is taking place there in 2026. As we will not be going in February 2026, current Year 9 students will be able to go when they are in Year 10.

A video taken from a previous visit is on the school YouTube channel - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ldyyou7w0x4>. Although the resort will be different from the video, the trip will follow a similar format.

The trip will take place during the half-term holiday, travelling on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> February and returning on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2027. THIS IS AT THE SAME TIME AS THE DISNEY TRIP THAT HAS ALREADY BEEN LAUNCHED BY THE MATHS DEPARTMENT.

There are definitely **84 places** on offer for this trip. 30 of the places will be allocated for the Sixth Form (current Y11 and 12 students) and the remaining 54 will be allocated to Year 9 (current Year 8 students – 27 places) and Year 10 (current Year 9 students – 27 places), but places will be filled by either year group if a particular year group doesn't fill their allocation by the closing date. The trip is not on a first come, first served basis. The first 84 student names drawn after the closing date will be those who will secure a place. We will continue to draw the remaining names to provide us with a waiting list, should this be needed. The ski company have said that we could expand the trip, but I will have to see what numbers express interest.

### What does the price include?

Included in the cost, which is **£1737**:

- Coach travel and Channel Tunnel/ Ferry crossing
- 5 nights full board accommodation – Hotel Nazionale - click [here](#) (3\*)
- Hot lunches are provided in a restaurant on the mountain
- Breakfast in the hotel is likely to be buffet style; evening meals tend to be traditional Italian food.
- 5 hours each day and a 5-day lift pass; **students will only ski under supervision**. This is 2 hours more than in previous years – many of the options from the ski companies I contacted offered just 4 hours a day, but I want to maximise our time on the slopes. Qualified ski instructors from the resort deliver all tuition. Students are likely to be in groups of 12 and I will allocate a member of Oaklands staff to also ski with that group to help deal with any issues.
- All ski equipment hire (skis, boots, poles and helmet) and insurance



Community Unity Opportunity



## **Other Potential Costs**

There are several other costs that I would like to make you aware of:

- Pre-skiing course at Calshot (for beginners – normally the last week of term in December), approximately £30.
- Ski clothing i.e. ski trousers, jacket, goggles, socks, gloves and under layers - cheap options can be found at places such as Sports Direct. Lidl often sells cheap ski clothing around Christmas.
- Drinks and meals on the journey – we stop at service stations and will visit a supermarket the day before our return journey to allow students to stock up. Students will need a packed lunch/ money for a meal on the ferry for the day of departure, breakfast and some lunch for the following day. We will leave immediately after our evening meal on the day of return, so students will need money for breakfast the following day.
- Tourist tax – I have budgeted for this based on the prices last paid in February 2025. I doubt it will change a great deal, but if it does, I will have to pass this on to parents.
- Swimming – if there is a possibility to do this, we will offer it for those who want to go.

## **Fitness**

Skiing is a strenuous activity, so please ensure that your child does the ski exercises we give them to ensure that they have the level of fitness required.

## **Passport & EHIC/GHIC cards**

Students will need a passport and an in-date EHIC or GHIC card in order to travel (free to apply for - [Get healthcare cover for travelling abroad - NHSBSA](#)).

## **Finance Arrangements**

- A deposit of £75 for students is due by Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026 (once you have been informed that your child has gained a place, following the ballot on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2025 - parents will be told by Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December whether their child has been successful in gaining a place). I CAN'T STRESS HIGHLY ENOUGH THE NEED TO PAY THE £75 DEPOSIT BY MONDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> - WE HAVE TO PAY THE COMPANY BY THAT DATE OR WE LOSE THE HOTEL ROOMS.
- Second payment - £185 by Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2026
- Third payment - £185 by Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2026
- Fourth payment - £185 by Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026
- Fifth payment - £185 by Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2026
- Sixth payment - £185 by Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026
- Seventh payment - £185 by Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2026
- Eighth payment - £185 by Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2026
- Ninth payment - £185 by Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2026
- Tenth and final payment - £182 by Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2026

Our preferred method of payment is online. Alternatively, you can pay by cash or cheque (made payable to Oaklands Catholic School). The £75 deposit is non-returnable. We will transfer this money to the ski company on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026. Similarly, we have to pay £100 per person to the company in February and another £100 per person in April – these are also non-refundable once paid. From that point, we only have to pay a final balance to the ski company in mid-November. If you drop out, and it is not for an insurable reason, after that point then we would not be able to refund any payments, unless we were able to find a replacement.

Essentially, please don't put your name forward for the trip if you think there is a chance that your child might drop out.

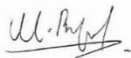
*Please note if you are a current Year 11 or 12 student your inclusion is conditional upon you being a member of Oaklands Sixth Form College at the time of the ski trip. Deposits are non-returnable if you withdraw because you are not a member of our college. Therefore, do not apply unless you are absolutely committed to returning in September to the Sixth Form.*

As this trip is non-curricular the school is normally unable to offer financial assistance and therefore the full cost of the activity must be borne by yourselves. Payments and accompanying paperwork must be handed in on or before the deadline dates outlined above and late payments will jeopardise your child's place on the trip. If there are any significant changes to the cost of the trip these may have to be passed on to the students. Be assured that we will try to keep such increases to a minimum.

Please complete and return the consent form below to the **Finance Office**. THE CLOSING DATE FOR INITIAL RETURNS WILL BE 11:45am ON **MONDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2025**. The draw to allocate places will be made on that day and you will be informed whether your child has secured a place by the evening of the 16<sup>th</sup> (monitor ClassCharts announcements and students check your Team); payment of the first deposit will then be due by **MONDAY 5<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2026**.

Please be aware that your child's place could be lost if payment is not received by the deadline.

Yours sincerely



Mr M Bamford

Assistant Headteacher – Ski Trip Leader

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**ITALY SKI TRIP 2027 REPLY SLIP - to be returned to the Finance Office (not Mr Bamford) by 11:45am on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

I wish my son/daughter ..... Form.....

to be included in the 2027 Ski trip.

Our preferred method of payment is online. Alternatively, you can pay by cash or cheque (made payable to Oaklands Catholic School).

In the case of a prospective Year 12 student, I understand that the place for my son/daughter is dependent upon his/her returning to Oaklands Sixth Form College in September; the same is true of any current Year 12 students going into Year 13 in September. I understand therefore that if my son/daughter decides not to return to Oaklands Sixth Form College he/she will not be allowed to accompany the group and that the place and all deposits paid will be forfeited.

I understand that the first three payments are non-refundable. Payments will not be refunded unless we are able to find a replacement.

Signed:.....Parent/Guardian

Date: ..... Email address:.....