



Faringdon Community College  
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**FARINGDON**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

April 2025

Dear Parent/Guardian

**Year 10 & 11 Geography field trip to Iceland**  
**12-16 October 2026**

I am organising a five-day trip to Iceland for pupils in Year 10 and 11 (**currently Year 8 and 9**). Priority will be given to those students with an outstanding behaviour record and have a genuine interest in geography with a view to taking it as a GCSE option in Year 10 and those who have already opted to study geography in Year 9 and are not going on the October 2025 Iceland trip. The tour has been organised with the school travel company Rayburn Tours and will complement and support the college's geography curriculum at GCSE level. I have organised five previous trips to Iceland so have experience of working in this different environment and country.

The purpose of the trip will be to allow students to understand more about the subject and to allow them to learn about geography through first hand experiences. Now one of Europe's most popular destinations, Iceland has natural features in abundance, including icecaps and glaciers, volcanoes, lava flows, ash deserts, mighty rivers, thundering waterfalls and stunning coastlines. We will ensure that this trip meets the educational requirements of the students. This will be mostly educational with some leisure visits (swimming most days in geothermally heated pools), and it will provide students with a truly memorable experience. At the end of this letter for your information, I have included a provisional itinerary that is the basis for the trip.

The price of the tour is expected to be £1,250 per person and this is based on a minimum of 50 students. This price will be confirmed when we know the interest from the students and how many are likely to attend. This price includes all transport, accommodation (Hotel Ork in Hveragerði) excursions, food and travel insurance. We recognise that this is an expensive trip but hope that you realise what a fantastic experience visiting Iceland will be. The students who came on our previous trips had an amazing and memorable time.

Spaces on this tour are limited. Should we have in excess of the required number of students names will be selected randomly, and unsuccessful applicants will be put on a reserve list. However, the College reserves the right not to accept students on this trip who do not show good levels of behaviour and co-operation in college. Good attendance is also a requirement for acceptance on the trip. **Please be advised that if your child gains a place on this visit the £200 deposit is non-refundable.**

**PLEASE DO NOT SEND ANY MONEY AS PAYMENT WILL BE MADE THROUGH YOUR PARENTPAY ACCOUNT. YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED WHEN TO DO THIS. PLEASE ENSURE YOU ARE REGISTERED WITH PARENTPAY AND YOUR DETAILS ARE UP TO DATE.**

**Voluntary contributions will be sought from parents in support of activities for which the school has to pay. However, there is no legal obligation on parents to contribute and children will be treated the same whether or not parents are able, or choose not to contribute. However, if not enough contributions are made, the activity will have to be cancelled.**



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FCC is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and individuals.

Headteacher: Jonathan Dennett. Chair of Governors: Paul Ray

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**Company Number:** 7977368 **Registered Office:** Fernham Road, Faringdon, Oxfordshire, SN7 7LB



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Please note that all students taking part in this visit must have their own passport. In addition, each child must have either a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC), or Global Health Insurance Card (GHIC), or valid health insurance if they are not a permanent resident of the EU. Any travel visas, where necessary, must be organised by parents.

Financial assistance is available if you are in financial hardship and by special arrangement with the school.

If you would like to register interest in your child attending, please reply before 9.00am Monday 28 April via the online form <https://forms.office.com/e/4TunYAxn0J>

Yours Sincerely,

Mr Marc Titcombe  
Subject Leader for Geography

### **Provisional itinerary for the Iceland trip 2026**

Day 1: Depart UK in the morning and afternoon/evening on the Reykjanes Peninsular - The Bridge in-between Continents and Gunnuhver Hot Springs, visit the Blue Lagoon. Travel to accommodation for evening meal.

Day 2: Morning/afternoon in the Golden Circle - Thingvellir National Park, Mid Atlantic Ridge, Geysir geothermal area and Gullfoss Waterfall including a visit to the Secret Lagoon.

Day 3: Morning along the South Coast - view the impressive Seljalandsfoss and Skogafoss falls. Afternoon Travel to the southern coast including Dyrholaey coastal features, the Town of Vik and Reynisfjara Black Sand Beach. Finish with a visit to the snout of the Solheimajokull Glacier.

Day 4: Morning/afternoon in the Westman Islands – travel south and take the Heimaey Ferry over to Heimaey then walk across the recently-formed lava fields and climb the 200m Eldfell cinder cone volcano – visit the local swimming pool. Finish the day with a visit to the Hellisheiði Geothermal Power Plant.

Day 5 Morning/afternoon Reykjavik – free time to explore Reykjavik including the Hallgrímskirkja church and Harbour. Afternoon to depart Iceland.



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