



31798/KMA/JOH  
16/07/2018

Headteacher:  
Chris Livesey BA(Hons)

Dear Parent/Carer

## TRIP TO FLORIDA – EASTER 2020

Following a previously successful Computer Studies/ ICT/ Technology themed visit to Japan in Easter 2017, I am pleased to confirm we are arranging a similarly STEM themed educational trip to Florida, United States, during the Easter holidays in 2020.

The trip will be aimed at students currently in Years 7 to 11, plus the new Year 7 students starting in September 2018, who are either interested in studying, are currently studying, or are considering a STEM career, particularly ICT, Computing and Technology. Although aimed at those students interested in ICT and Computing and designed to stimulate learning by placing pupils in fresh and exciting contexts relevant to their education, the trip will also enable students to experience activities such as viewing the wildlife and landscape of the Everglades, seeing the sights and culture of Orlando, as well as enjoying the exhilaration of Disney.

Our tour operator is Diverse School Travel, best school tour operator finalist in the 2017/2018 School Travel Awards, with substantial experience of organising curriculum-based school trips. They are completely financially protected by ABTA and ATOL and are also accredited by 'Learning Outside the Classroom' and the School Travel Forum; both organisations which support excellence in the planning and delivery of highly successful educational trips.

The proposed trip is likely to consist of the following:

<b>Destination:</b>	Florida, USA
<b>Dates:</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> week of Easter holidays 2020 (exact dates to be confirmed)
<b>Duration:</b>	8 days (6 nights)
<b>Depart/Return UK:</b>	Parents/carers to drop off and collect from London Airport (airport to be confirmed)
<b>Mode of travel:</b>	Aeroplane, chartered coach, boat and airboat (Everglades)
<b>Estimated price:</b>	£1,840

<b>Proposed activities</b>	Kennedy Space Centre
<b>Include:</b>	Disney Youth Education Series (YES) Programme 'The Evolution of Technology'
	Orlando Science Centre
	Orlando Eye
	Everglades National Park Wildlife Tour (walking tour and boat ride)
	Boggy Creek Airboat Ride
	Two full days at Disney Parks: Magic Kingdom and Hollywood Studios

If you wish your son/daughter to participate in this memorable trip and in order to finance this valuable activity, we would ask that parents/and or carers make a payment of £1,840 (approx.). This will cover flights, accommodation, six breakfasts, six evening meals, insurance, coach transfers throughout and entry to all proposed activities.

In order to register interest for the above trip please make a payment of £150 in ParentPay ("Florida 2020"). Please note, the **ParentPay account will be open for deposits from Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2018**



# NOWER HILL HIGH SCHOOL

**until 9am on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2018, inclusive.** If your child is not allocated a place due to oversubscription, you will be refunded the £150 minus a £0.64p ParentPay charge. As the number of participants is restricted for this trip, in the event that this trip is oversubscribed, the selection of students on the trip will be based on giving priority to those students currently studying, having previously studied, or wishing to embark in a career in STEM, particularly ICT/Computer Science or Technology. We do not operate a 'first come first served' selection as this can disadvantage a student who is off sick or absent for another reason.

If your child successfully secures a place on the trip, the initial deposit of £150 will be followed by these further instalments:

30th November 2018	£300
30 <sup>th</sup> January 2019	£200
30 <sup>th</sup> March 2019	£200
30 <sup>th</sup> May 2019	£200
30 <sup>th</sup> July 2019	£200
30 <sup>th</sup> September 2019	£200
30 <sup>th</sup> November 2019	£200
30 <sup>th</sup> January 2020	£190

Students will be notified by Monday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018 if they have successfully secured a place on the trip.

All payments are through ParentPay ("Florida 2020") so after the initial deposit window you are able to submit payments at your discretion, as long as the above deadlines are met. Please logon to your ParentPay account in the usual manner to make your payments. If you have any problems or need a reminder of your user name or password, please email: [parentpay@nowerhill.harrow.sch.uk](mailto:parentpay@nowerhill.harrow.sch.uk)

Refunds are not possible because we calculate costs depending on the number of students/staff committed to going on a trip. If a student does not take part in a trip on the day, for any unforeseen circumstances, then the cost of the trip is NOT refundable.

If a student withdraws or is withdrawn from a trip, any deposit or fees paid that a tour operator deducts for cancellation will not be refunded under any circumstance. This includes the instance where the school decides to withdraw a child because of behavioural issues that may have emerged after the trip was booked. We as a school reserve the right to withdraw a child because of behavioural issues with any period of notice.

Please note that a stipulation of the trip is that any participant **must be a student at Nower Hill High School at the time of the trip to be eligible.** If any GCSE or AS students are not successful in securing a place at the school for September 2019 then they will not be able to take part in the trip. Similarly, any parent who withdraws their child from the school by taking them off roll (such as relocating because of work) before the trip will not be able to take part. Please be aware that once a deposit has been paid, together with any further instalments transferred to the tour provider, then they are then non-refundable. This means if a student does not get the grades to return to the sixth form they will lose their place on the trip, their deposit, plus any further instalments paid to the tour provider. The same applies to students that have been taken off roll by their parent.

If a student misbehaves on a residential trip (including overseas) to the extent whereby they need to be sent home, then the student will be accompanied home by a trip adult, or their parent / carer can collect them. Any additional costs that are incurred, both for the student and accompanying adult will be borne solely by the student's family or carers. If your son / daughter requires first aid treatment because they are unwell, whilst on



# NOWER HILL HIGH SCHOOL

the trip, we will of course contact you. In any event, all illnesses and any medication/treatment are reported upon return to school to both the school nurse and the Year Co-ordinator.

If the trip should need to be cancelled at short notice you will be notified via telephone and a message will be displayed on Fronter. In this scenario we would endeavour to claim as much insurance back as possible.

Next academic year you will be asked to disclose any pre-existing medical conditions affecting your child. It is vital you take their ability to take part in planned activities and travel into account before paying their deposit.

Your child will be asked to provide their passport two weeks prior to the trip. If they require their passport in this two-week period, we will take a photocopy and return to you. Please check that their passport is valid and has at least 6 months left on it from the date of departure. You should also ensure there are at least 2 free pages for stamps to be issued. All students are required to obtain a visa (approx. \$14), which will be your responsibility to ensure has been undertaken prior to handing in the passports.

This is a fantastic opportunity for your son or daughter to engage with their peers in an unfamiliar setting, discover new places and ideas and further develop their own ICT, computing and technology knowledge, enabling them to have first-hand experience of 'emerging technologies' regularly discussed in the classroom and set as questions in various exam papers. Confirmation of exact dates and a detailed itinerary will follow in the Autumn term. A 'Florida 2020' meeting for parents and students will be held in either the Summer or following Autumn term of 2019.

In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like any further information.

Yours sincerely

**Miss Manning**  
**Party Leader**  
**i/c KS4 and KS5 Vocational Qualifications**