



Linlithgow Academy

Together We Thrive

Linlithgow Academy

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Residential trips Session 2024.2025

Head Teacher: Grant Abbot

As a school we understand the positive impact that residential school trips can have on young people. Going on a residential trip encourages students to step out of their comfort zone and embrace the world without their parents/carers. For many children, a school residential trip will be the first time that they are away from their family, which aids social development through creating bonds with their peers and teachers. Ask many adults and the memory that stands out the most from school is a trip away! Students view the world differently, see different cultures and a school residential trip may ignite a passion for travel, adventure or working abroad.

However, we also need to be very mindful about the additional financial pressures that are impacting heavily on families and ensure any residential trips we offer consider very carefully questions around equity, for example payment timelines if trips are more expensive, purpose and length of trip, year group selection, time of academic year and awareness of unintended financial pressures on families.

As such, in addition to residential trips, the Academy is also offering less expensive day trips each year. Our S1 pupils will be attending the Theatre and there will be a specific day trip offer in S2 (Glasgow Science Centre) and S3 (venue still being considered) as well. This will mean every child should have the opportunity to go on a trip, whether that be a day trip, a subject specific day or evening trip and/or a residential trip during their time at Linlithgow Academy.

To ensure you have a clear overview of all residential trip offers for the upcoming academic session, at a specific time each year (this year it is now) we will letter parents/carers with a summary of the agreed residential trips that are being arranged. No other residential trips will be agreed for the next academic session out with this time, unless under exceptional circumstances. By giving you this information at one time each session, it gives you

- time to decide whether any of the upcoming residential trips are appropriate for your child
- time to spread the trip cost over a fair timeframe and
- confidence that no other residential trips will be arranged at a later point for the next academic year that may impact on your decision making now.

Trip leaders will begin to advertise their trips for next session after the Christmas holidays and at that point, if you wish to proceed, more detail will be shared with you. I hope you find the residential trip summary on the next page useful so you can start considering these opportunities.

Please note, there will be a maximum number of places for each residential trip being organised. There will also be a deadline date for expressing an interest in a particular trip. Names will not be taken after this deadline if the trip is already full. If a trip is over-subscribed, then procedures to determine allocation, including eventual use of a randomised ballot, will determine who can attend and who is on the waiting list.

Please remember residential trips are organised by staff who volunteer to do this, staff time out of school must be planned and be reasonably covered without a detrimental impact on our core business. As such, residential trips are unlikely to be available to every year group and trip offers may fluctuate each year. More Information can be viewed here: <https://linlithgowacademy.westlothian.org.uk/article/76894/School-Excursions-and-Trips>

Yours sincerely

Grant Abbot
Head Teacher

The residential trips for session 2024.2025 (and one being advertised early for 2025.2026) are below. Trip leaders will advertise these trips after Christmas holidays.

The trip information below is deliberately brief, provisional and subject to change.

1. Belfast/Dublin: Thursday 12th – Sunday 15th September 2024

Trip	Subject/Focus	Trip Leader	Year Groups in session 2024.25	Approx. Cost	Nights
Belfast/Dublin	History	Ms Hanna	S5/S6	£370	3
To offer a cultural context for our classroom studies, and to see how Belfast and Dublin of today have been affected by the topics we've been studying in the History classroom.					

2. Gartmore House: Thursday 3rd - Sat 5th October 2024

Trip	Subject/Focus	Trip Leader	Year Groups in session 2024.25	Approx. Cost	Nights
Gartmore House	Music/Orchestra	Mrs Bisson Ms McLellan-Smith	S1-S6 pupils	£150	2
To provide in depth musical rehearsals within the pupil's ensembles working towards a concert.					

3. Italy Ski trip: Friday 10th January – Wednesday 15th January 2025

Trip	Subject/Focus	Trip Leader	Year Group in session 2024.25	Approx. Cost	Nights
Italy Ski trip	Skiing	Ms Dickson Ms Leblanc	S3	£1050	5
The S3 ski trip to Italy is an exciting wider educational and recreational opportunity designed to enrich the overall development of our students. The trip will promote physical health and well-being, cultural and social enrichment, support students in developing their responsibility and independence skills, build teamwork and communication and support building resilience skills					

4. Belgium Battlefields: Wednesday 30th April – Monday 5th May 2025

Trip	Subject/Focus	Trip Leader	Year Group in session 2024.25	Approx. Cost	Nights
WW1 Battlefields	History	Mrs Bryson	S3	£600	5
A historical tour of WW1 battlefields in Belgium and France. Pupils will be able to experience, first hand, the sites, conditions, weapons and stories which made this conflict so devastating and develop empathy and respect for those who fought.					

5. Iceland: Wednesday 8th – Sunday 12th October 2025 (Please note academic year)

Trip	Subject/Focus	Trip Leader	Year Groups in session 2025.26	Approx. Cost	Nights
Iceland	Geography	Mrs Scott	S5/S6	£1050	4
This trip is of particular interest for those who have an appreciation for natural landscapes including glaciers, waterfalls and coast, along with the opportunity to provide context to some of the features learned about in plate tectonics.					