

**Outcomes
First
Group.**

School Residential Trip Policy



Residential Visits Progression Policy

Purpose

Residential visits form an important part of the school's wider curriculum and personal development offer. They provide opportunities for students to develop resilience, independence, teamwork, confidence, emotional regulation, problem-solving skills and positive relationships outside of the classroom environment.

As an SEMH school, we recognise that residential experiences can present both significant opportunities and challenges for our students. Therefore, residential visits are carefully planned to provide a progressive pathway of experiences that gradually increase in challenge, distance from home, and duration as students move through the school.

Principles

The residential programme is designed to:

- Build confidence and independence incrementally.
- Develop students' ability to manage change and unfamiliar environments.
- Promote positive social interaction and teamwork.
- Encourage personal responsibility and self-regulation.
- Prepare students for further education, employment and adulthood.
- Ensure that all visits are accessible, appropriate and safe.

Residential Progression Pathway

Residential experiences will increase in challenge, distance travelled and length of stay throughout a student's time at the school.

- **Year 7**

Students will participate in more local visits and enrichment activities designed to develop confidence in unfamiliar environments and establish expectations for educational visits. Students whose risk assessments indicate they would be unable to attend overnight, or who do not want to stay overnight, will have the opportunity to attend for the day sessions to build on confidence and resilience.

- **Year 8**

Students will take part in extended day visits and outdoor learning opportunities alongside a 2 night residential, with increased emphasis on teamwork, resilience and independence.

- **Year 9**

Students will participate in a more challenging off-site activity of the Duke of Edinburgh expedition, preparing them for future overnight experiences.

- **Year 10**

Students will be offered a 2-3 night residential visit to Snowdon. This visit is intended to develop resilience, perseverance, teamwork and independence through participation in outdoor and adventurous activities.

The overnight nature of the visit provides students with their first opportunity to demonstrate their ability to manage an extended period away from home, over a greater distance, whilst maintaining appropriate behaviour, engagement and emotional regulation. Due to distance, there will not be an option to only attend during day time activities.

- **Year 11**

Students will be offered a residential 3-4 night residential, which represents the culmination of the school's residential programme. This visit is typically further abroad, longer in duration and greater in challenge than previous residential experiences.

The visit is intended to provide students with an opportunity to demonstrate the independence, resilience and personal responsibility developed throughout their time at school.

Eligibility and Progression Criteria

Participation in residential visits is not automatic and will be determined through an individual risk assessment process.

To be eligible to attend the Year 11 residential visit abroad, students **must** have successfully completed the Year 10 Snowdon residential visit. A successful residential experience will be determined by the school and may include consideration of:

- Behaviour during the visit.
- Ability to follow instructions and safety procedures.
- Emotional regulation and wellbeing.
- Respect for peers, staff and accommodation.
- Engagement with activities.
- Overall risk presented during the visit.

Students who do not successfully complete the Year 10 residential, or who are assessed as unsuitable for the residential abroad due to identified risks, will not automatically be excluded from residential opportunities in Year 11.

Where appropriate, these students will be offered an alternative UK-based residential experience that is considered more suitable to their individual needs and risk profile. This ensures that all students continue to have opportunities to access residential learning experiences whilst maintaining the safety and wellbeing of themselves and others.

Risk Assessment and Safety

The school is committed to ensuring that all residential visits are planned and delivered safely.

A comprehensive risk assessment will be completed for every residential visit and will include consideration of:

- The nature and location of activities.
- Travel arrangements.
- Accommodation.

- Medical needs.
- Behavioural risks.
- Social and emotional needs.
- Staffing ratios.
- Emergency procedures.
- Individual student needs and vulnerabilities.

In addition to visit-specific risk assessments, individual student risk assessments will be completed prior to attendance. These assessments will draw upon:

- Behaviour records.
- Safeguarding information.
- Attendance data.
- Previous educational visit outcomes.
- Medical information.
- Professional judgement from relevant staff.

The school reserves the right to determine whether a student can safely participate in a residential visit based on the outcomes of these assessments.

Review

This policy will be reviewed annually and in conjunction with the school's Educational Visits Policy to ensure that residential opportunities continue to meet the needs of students whilst maintaining high standards of safety and inclusion

We are part of the Outcomes First Group Family, by working together we will build incredible futures by empowering vulnerable children, young people and adults in the UK to be happy and make their way in the world.

**Outcomes
First
Group.**

**Acorn Education And Care
Options Autism**