

Thursday 23 October 2025

Dear Parents/ Carers

Iceland Visit 27 November 2025 – 1 December 2025

I am writing to you with final details of our forthcoming visit to Iceland. This letter contains important information, so we would ask that you read it carefully.

Itinerary

Day 1

We will be travelling in two coaches, both in the UK and in Iceland, which are largely split between Year 9 and Year 10. Students who are not with their year group have already been informed. Due to local weather conditions, all activities and timings are subject to last minute adjustment or change.

1. 5.45am Arrive at school (please park in the Sports Centre Car Park, so that the coaches have full access arriving and departing). Please be punctual, we must depart on time.
2. 6.30am Depart school
3. 12.15pm Depart Heathrow Airport
4. 3.30pm Arrive Keflavik Airport
5. 5.30pm 'Flyover Iceland' virtual ride experience
6. 7.00pm Arrive at Accommodation (first inclusive meal)

Day 2 (Day 2 - 4, Year 10 Coach will follow the itinerary below. Year 9 will alternate, following day 4, 2, 3 order)

South Coast Day

1. 9.00am Depart Accommodation
2. 10.00am Seljalandsfoss Waterfall
3. 11.00am Solheim Glacier Walk (originally just visiting the glacier area, now with opportunity to hike onto the ice)
4. 2.00pm Reynisfjara Black Beach
5. 3.00pm Vik Lava Show
6. 4.00pm Skogafoss Waterfall
7. 6.00pm Arrive at Accommodation

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Satchell Lane, Hamble, Southampton, SO31 4NE

Headteacher: Miss L Cambridge, BSc (Hons), MA Ed. NPQH



Day 3

Golden Circle Day

1. 9.00am Depart Accommodation
2. 9.30am Keri Volcanic Crater
3. 11.00am Secret Lagoon Swimming
4. 1.00pm Gullfoss Waterfall
5. 2.00pm Geysir
6. 3.30pm Pingvellir National Park
7. 6.00pm Arrive at Accommodation

Day 4

Reykjavik Day

1. 9.00am Depart Accommodation
2. 10.00am Perlan Exhibition Centre
3. 11.00am City Guided Walk
4. 1.30pm Geothermal Power Station
5. 3.00pm Greenhouse Town
6. 5.00pm Local Swimming, Selfoss
7. 6.30pm Arrive at Accommodation

Day 5

1. 8.30am Depart Accommodation (packed lunch last inclusive meal)
2. 9.00am Greenhouse Town
3. 10.00am Lava Tunnels
4. 4.20pm Depart Keflavik Airport
5. 7.30pm Arrive Heathrow Airport
6. 10.15pm Arrive at school (please park in the Sports Centre Car Park, so that the coaches have full access to the school site). This time may change, so please monitor messages from your child during the evening and we will update our social media channels. Staff and students will be very tired, so please arrive punctually for collection.

All students are expected to attend school as normal on Tuesday 2 December 2025.

You will notice there is a change to the Day 2 itinerary, with a very exciting opportunity to not only view the glacier, but now to walk onto the ice. This experience will be led by approved specialist guides and students will be provided with specialist equipment. To facilitate this extra event, I should be very grateful if Parents/ Carers would please arrange for an additional payment of £10 to Scopay, in order to cover the additional costs.

Students should hand their passport and GHIC card to School Reception by **Friday 7 November 2025**.

<https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/healthcare-abroad/apply-for-a-free-uk-global-health-insurance-card-ghic/>

New Airport regulations

We have been informed by our travel provider about important changes to travel requirements at Keflavik Airport.

The European Union is introducing a new Entry/Exit System (EES) that will come into effect from 12 October 2025. This system will apply to most travellers from the UK and may impact your group's experience at border control.

What is EES?

The EU Entry/Exit System is a new electronic system that will replace the manual stamping of passports. Instead, it will digitally register the movements of non-EU/Schengen travellers (including most UK citizens) when entering or leaving participating European countries.

*From **12 October 2025**, when passing through border control, all travellers will be required to:*

- *Present their passport*
- *Have a facial scan taken*
- *Provide fingerprints (children under 12 are exempt from fingerprinting but will still need a facial scan)*

What Does This Mean for Your School Trip?

As of 12 October 2025, all students and staff travelling to these destinations should be prepared for additional checks and slightly longer processing times at border control.

We recommend:

- *Ensuring all passports are valid and in good condition*
- *Allowing extra time for arrival and departure procedures*
- *Preparing students (and parents) for the new facial scan and fingerprinting process*
- *Keeping group documentation easily accessible*

Behaviour

As previously discussed, good behaviour is essential, not only because your child is representing both their school and country, but is also vital to ensure the health and safety of both themselves and others. Poor behaviour may result in removal from the visit and return to

the UK at the cost and inconvenience of Parents/ Carers. Any behaviour issues will also be followed by sanctions, when we return to school.

Kit

As much as possible travel light, each student will be responsible for carrying their own bags. Each student is allowed one piece of hand luggage (55x40x20cm, max 10kg) and one case for the aircraft hold (max 23kg).

- Think layers, t-shirts, sweat shirts/jumpers, winter water proof jacket/coat with hood
- Jeans/jogger bottoms
- Water proof trousers
- Underwear, including thick socks
- Pyjamas/sleepwear
- Walking boots
- Trainers
- Hat/gloves
- Swimwear
- Towel
- Toiletries
- Back pack for the day
- Carrier bags for wet/dirty washing
- Reusable water bottle
- Universal travel plug

Money / personal possessions

As previously advised, students will need little money and I recommend a maximum of equivalent £60 spending money. It will be much more expensive to purchase Icelandic Krona at Heathrow Airport and we will not have time to do so on arrival in Iceland. Therefore, please make any currency purchases in advance. All personal possessions are the responsibility of students and are taken on the trip at their own risk. Consequently, I recommend students avoid bringing expensive coveted items with them.

Medicines

If your child requires prescribed or non-prescribed medicines whilst on the trip these must be handed in advance to the following staff. Please pass on all medication in Year 9 to Miss Lang, in Year 10 to Mrs Richards. This can be emailed into school using general@thehambleschool.co.uk and marked FAO Miss Lang or Mrs Richards.

Rooming

We do not expect to receive the room allocations until early November. Once we have received this information we will allocate students into single sex rooms, considering personal preferences as much as possible.

Emergency contact

Whilst on the visit we will have a UK based emergency contact. You will be provided these details closer to departure.

If you have any further questions, please do email me via general@thehambleschool.co.uk

Your faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R James', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

Mr R James

Year 9 Progress Leader / Associate Assistant Headteacher (Ext: 665)
Designated Deputy Safeguarding Lead

If, at any time, you should require special arrangements to be made when visiting the school and/or in order to participate fully in supporting your child at school (e.g. an accessible venue for meetings, if you are a wheelchair user, assistance with translation of documents or enlarged copies of communications etc.), please do not hesitate to let us know.