



# Kents Hill Junior School



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Headteacher: Miss Joanne Parkes

9<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are always keen to ensure that the trips and experiences we offer are enriching, inclusive, and carefully planned with our families in mind. Educational visits play an important role in bringing learning to life, helping pupils gain confidence, explore new experiences and make lasting memories.

We are reviewing our approach to school trips and would greatly value your views. We would be grateful if you could take a few minutes to complete a **short survey by Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February**:  
<https://forms.gle/QPSscVui9hY5CtNo9>

This year, we have made greater use of in-house workshops, such as *Portals to the Past*, which offer several benefits: they reduce overall costs, maximize learning time (as no time is spent travelling), provide a richer, more immersive experience tailored to the curriculum and allow all children to participate fully, including those who may face barriers to attending off-site trips.

We are also very mindful of the current financial pressures many families are facing, alongside the rise in transport costs. At present, the cost of transport for a school trip typically starts at around £15 per child, before adding any activities or workshops. In line with DfE guidance, contributions towards school trips are voluntary. However, where voluntary contributions do not cover costs, the school may need to cancel a trip or cover the shortfall from each year group's budget. While we do this to ensure experiences can still go ahead, it does impact our ability to provide other resources and opportunities within school.

We have also noticed a decline in take-up for residential trips, including the Year 6 residential and would like to better understand the reasons behind this.

Your honest feedback will help us plan future trips in a way that balances valuable experiences with affordability and fairness for all families.

Thank you for your time and continued support.

Kind regards,

Miss Joanne Parkes  
Headteacher

### ***Learning ~ Friendship ~ Safety ~ Success***

***At Kents Hill Junior School we are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, and we expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Designated Safeguarding Lead – Miss Joanne Parkes***

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