

Our Ref: 041 15

13th March 2015

Dear Parent/Carer

Alton Towers

The School Council have asked that a day in the calendar be set aside for a trip to Alton Towers (as has been the case in previous years). After careful consideration, we have accepted this request, and decided that this year's trip will take place on **Thursday 2nd July**.

The trip to Alton Towers is intended as a reward for pupils who have worked hard throughout the year. We are delighted that so many of our pupils fully deserve the opportunity to attend because of their hard work and good behaviour in school. However, there is a very small minority of pupils whose behaviour or attendance means that it would not be appropriate for them to participate in such a trip, and whilst I am writing I thought it would be helpful to clarify who will be invited to join the trip next term.

- As at Monday, 16th March, all pupils in **Years 7 to 10** will be invited to go to **Alton Towers**.
- However, the invitation will be rescinded from any pupil:
 - whose attendance or punctuality between Monday 16nd March and Friday 19th June 2015 inclusive falls below 92% (although naturally allowance will be made for pupils with confirmed medical conditions); or
 - who has an **unauthorised** absence from school (including any unauthorised absence for holidays taken in term-time) between Monday 16th March and Friday 19th June 2015 inclusive; or
 - who truants from any part of the school day between Monday 16th March and Friday 19th June 2015 inclusive; or
 - who is formally excluded from school for any period of time between Monday 2nd March and Friday 19th June 2015; or
 - who is placed in the Internal Exclusion Unit on **two** separate occasions between Monday 16th March and Friday 19th June 2015.
- In all such cases, a final decision will be made by one or more senior members of staff. They will place particular emphasis on:
 - a pupil's previous record (previous good conduct will be a mitigating factor);
 - the nature of the event(s) that led to the decision to rescind the invitation; and
 - whether it may be appropriate for a 'contract' to be issued for the remainder of the year, under which circumstances the invitation would remain in place only if certain conditions are met. The drawing up of such a contract would not be appropriate in serious cases, or at all after the May half-term.
- **Pupils from whom the invitation is rescinded will still be expected to attend school on Thursday 2nd July.**

If you have any questions about these criteria, or about the Alton Towers trip itself, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully



Stephen Brierley
Principal