

Educational Visits Policy

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Document Reference:	Educational Visits Policy			
Version	01			
Status	Final			
Publication Date	October 2021			
Related Policies	Keeping Children Safe in S	School 2021		
	Working Together to Safe 2018 Updated December 2			
	ATLP Safeguarding and C	hild Protection		
	ATLP Staff Code of Conduct			
	Guidance to Safer Working Practice in Schools			
	ATLP First Aid in Schools			
	ATLP Administering Medicines in Schools			
	ATLP School Transport Po	blicy		
	School Minibus Policy			
	ATLP Financial Regulation	IS		
	ATLP Charging and Remissions			
Review Date	Annually			
Approved/Ratified By	Trust Board Date: October 2021			

Contents:

Statement of intent

- 1. Legal framework
- 2. <u>Definitions</u>
- 3. Key roles and responsibilities
- 4. Training of staff
- 5. Planning school trips
- 6. <u>Risk assessment process</u>
- 7. Vetting providers
- 8. Equal opportunities
- 9. Safe use of minibuses and seatbelts
- 10. Parental consent
- 11. Staffing ratios
- 12. The Duke of Edinburgh's Award
- 13. Insurance and licensing
- 14. Accidents and incidents and First Aid
- 15. Missing person procedure
- 16. Pupils with SEND
- 17. Finance
- 18. Foreign trips
- 19. Evaluating trips and visits
- 20. Monitoring and review

Appendices

<u> Appendix 1 – Radar Diagram</u>

Appendix 2 – Suggested procedure for arranging a visit.

1.Statement of intent

The Arthur Terry Learning Partnership (ATLP) understands that extracurricular activities can be a very effective way of enhancing learning. Outdoor learning, offsite visits and learning outside the classroom can all have a positive impact on young people's learning and development. ATLP aims to ensure that pupils are all offered opportunities to learn outside the classroom and to further develop their knowledge, skills, and experiences to enhance their learning.

ATLP takes the health and wellbeing of staff and pupils very seriously. This policy has been designed in line with DfE HSE guidance as well as the National Guidance from the Outdoor Education Advisors Panel (OEAP) and details the Trust's responsibilities for pupils and staff members while out on educational visits and school trips.

ATLP follows the guidance and procedures as set out by the DfE (2014) for *Health and Safety Advice on Legal Duties and Powers* which supplanted previous advice of Health and Safety: Responsibilities and Powers (2001) and *Health and Safety of Pupils on Educational Visits (HASPEV 1998).*

All staff should follow guidelines as outlined in the professional standards for teachers and code of conduct for support staff and special reference should be made to Safer Working Practice for Staff in Schools, as well as any current safeguarding guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' and 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' as well as the school's own policy.

Following this guidance ensures consideration for the health and safety of all those involved and to maintain the educational quality of visits and sound financial planning.

1. Legal framework

1.1 This policy has been created with regard to relevant legislation including, but not limited to:

- Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974
- <u>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-and-safety-on-educational-visits</u>
 The HASPEV guidance is now over 20 years old and although it is still a good base, the general guidance has been taken over by
 The Outdoor Education Advisors Panel (OEAP). This guidance can be obtained from the Outdoor Education Advisors Panel
 National Guidance at: <u>https://oeapng.info/</u>
- 1.2 This policy has also been created with due regard to the following guidance:
 - DfE (2018) 'Charging for school activities.
 - DfE (2018) 'Health and safety on educational visits'
 - HSE (2011) 'School trips and outdoor learning activities'
 - DfE (2013) 'Driving school minibuses.
 - Keeping Children Safe in Education 2021
 - A Guide to Safer Working Practice 2020

1.3 This policy should be used in conjunction with the most up to date copy of the following school policies:

- Complaints Procedures Policy
- Behavioural Policy
- Critical Incident Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Charging and Remissions Policy
- Equal Opportunities Policy
- School Transport
- School Minibus policy
- SEND
- Safeguarding and Child Protection

- Staff Code of Conduct
- Medicines in School

2. Definitions

2.1. **'In loco parentis'** means that the group leader of any school trip or educational visit has a duty of care over the pupils in place of a parent.

2.2.'**School trip'** means any sports fixture, educational visit, foreign exchange trip, away-day or residential holiday organised by the school which takes pupils and staff members off-site.

2.3. 'Residential' means any school trip which includes an overnight stay.

2. 4. Adventurous activities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Trekking/horse riding/
- Caving/river gorge walking/ scrambling
- Skiing/snowboarding including indoor and dry slopes.
- Water sports including coasteering/coast scrambling/ canoeing/ sailing/rafting/ paddle boarding/kayaking/snorkelling/water skiing/
- Climbing/abseiling including man made walls indoor.
- An overseas visit
- A residential or overnight stay, home or abroad
- Field work in coastal, river or upland venues
- Multi activities including those delivered by an outside provider.
- Hill walking and mountaineering
- Open country activities, beyond 30 mins of nearest refuge and above 550m
- Camping/ Kite surfing/Trampoline parks
- Any form of motor sport/ shooting archery including laser tag, paint ball and air soft/ mountain biking.
- Duke of Edinburgh Award Expeditions
- Further details can be found in the Outdoor Education Advisors Panel (OEAP guidance and in **Appendix One**, which includes reference to the **OEAP Radar Diagram**, useful in determining whether an activity should be classed as adventurous or not.

2.5 It is important to note that 'adventurous activities' require a different response both in terms of being scrutinised by the Outdoor Education Advisor (OEA), specific risk assessments and the length of notice given prior to permission being granted.

3.Key roles and responsibilities

3.1 The **Trust Board** is responsible for:

- Ensuring this policy is compliant with national legislation.
- The overall implementation of this policy.
- Ensuring that this policy, as written, does not discriminate on any grounds including, but not limited to ethnicity/national origin, culture, religion, gender, disability or sexual orientation.
- Ensuring educational trips and visits positively impact pupils' lives, teaching them new life skills and providing new experiences.
- Promoting good safeguarding practices to ensure the safety of pupils and staff when taking part in extracurricular trips and activities.

3.2. ATLP are aware that these activities can present a higher risk to children. To reduce this risk to a level that is acceptable the Trust will appoint the services of a competent and experienced OEA, approved by the OEAP.

3.3 The OEA Advisor will have an overview of all adventurous activities, including residential trips and advise on appropriate risk assessment and safety measures to help staff assess and manage risk and support headteachers in their assessments of adventurous activities.

3 .4 ATLP understands that, as an employer it carries full legal responsibility. Choosing not to appoint a competent adviser leaves the Trust in a vulnerable position. In the event of any proven civil negligence, this can result in the payment of heavy damages. The effectiveness of the OEA is at the heart of an employer's ability to carry out their responsibilities.

3.5 Headteachers and Educational Visits Coordinators (EVCs) will continue to approve all activities including those deemed adventurous, residential, or overseas. The approval of these visits remains with the headteacher, but the OEA will review these via Evolve and add guidance on all visits forms that have any elements of these. It is then the responsibility of the school to follow the guidance and advice. The Headteacher will also make the Director or Education (DoE) and Local Governing Body (LGB) aware of the trips and visits that have been approved, via the 'Specific School matters' reports at their meetings. 3.6 To facilitate this process all schools will record all trips and visits on Evolve. Headteachers, and EVCs will have access to this electronic recording system as well as the external OEA.

3.7. The **headteacher** is responsible for:

- Appointing an EVC. In the absence of an EVC the headteacher should undertake their duties.
- The day-to-day implementation and management of this policy.
- This may be delegated to EVC.
- Liaising with the EVC and communicating information regarding any planned trips to parents.
- Liaising with the DoE, where appropriate regarding the organisation of extracurricular trips and activities, including settling any disputes.
- Being part of the approval process for extra-curricular trips and activities where appropriate This may be delegated to the EVC.
- Ensuring the EVC is competent to oversee the coordination of off-site education and has undertaken the training as recommended by the OEAP. This training must be refreshed every three years.
- Ensuring, along with the EVC, that the relevant paperwork, using Evolve, including risk assessments, for extracurricular trips and activities are completed.
- Ensuring suitable safety measures are in place prior to each trip or activity.
- Overseeing the work of the EVC, ensuring a whole-school approach is adopted when planning and coordinating extracurricular trips and activities.
- Ensuring there are contingency plans in place in the event of a member of staff being absent on the day of the trip or activity.
- Ensuring that there is a plan in place that is shared and reviewed to manage a critical incident or emergency.
- Ensuring that the DoE is made aware of the trips and visits taking place.

3.8. The Educational Visit Coordinator (EVC) has overall responsibility for:

• Overseeing all issues and controls regarding extracurricular activities and trips.

- Liaising between all appropriate parties, including the local Outdoor Education Adviser (OEA), headteacher, HR, SENCO and finance during the planning and organising of extracurricular activities and trips.
- Working with the appointed OEA to help staff assess and manage risks.
- Ensuring the systems and procedures for dealing with educational visits adhere to the requirements of this policy.
- Ensuring risk assessments are conducted prior to school trips and educational visits to ensure pupils and staff safety.
- Ensuring an itinerary is created prior to an educational visit or school trip and ensuring it is distributed to parents and staff to ensure the event is well organised and safe.
- Liaising with the designated member of staff who will act as leader of the trip.
- Ensuring that any problems are reported to the schools headteacher.

3.9 The **designated visit leader** in charge of the trip is 'in loco parentis' and has a duty of care to all pupils on the trip. They are also responsible for:

- Liaising with the EVC to ensure the schedule is free on the school calendar prior to planning an educational visit.
- Identifying the educational /enrichment purpose of the extra-curricular trip or activity and presenting its benefits to the headteacher/EVC.
- Completing all essential documentation using Evolve for the trip, including a risk assessment, with the headteacher and EVC as well as any financial documentation.
- Ensuring parents are informed of the proposed extracurricular trip or activity well in advance of the trip. However, we understand that as some opportunities arise at short notice, this may not always be possible.
- Ensuring parental permission has been obtained prior to the trip. This may be through blanket consent.
- Understanding and operating safeguarding measures throughout the planning, organisation and delivery of the extracurricular trip or activity.
- Delegating responsibilities to other staff members on the school trip.
- Ensuring all adults on the trip are aware of their responsibilities and that the necessary checks have been carried out on volunteers in line with the Safeguarding Policy.
- Ensuring all adults on the trip are aware of the plans, including the Critical Incident Plan.

- Appointing a deputy leader who would be able to take control of the trip if the leader was unwell or unable to continue as leader.
- Liaising with SEND and HR in respect of any additional needs of either students or staff that might require additional resources or planning during the trip.

3.10 Staff are responsible for:

- Adhering to this policy and applying its principles when participating in extracurricular trips and activities.
- Ensuring the safety of the pupils is maximised throughout any educational visit or activity.
- Liaising with the designated visit leader to understand personal responsibilities and ensuring the smooth running of the school trip or activity.
- Ensuring that they are fully aware of any pupils requiring additional support.
- Ensuring that they are fully aware of the trip arrangements and requirements to ensure they are prepared in terms of equipment and knowledge of the planned itinerary.
- Ensuring that any space visited, e.g., a park and playing field, or coach is kept clean and free from litter during the trip.

3.11 Pupils are responsible for:

- Following instructions from staff while on school trips and adhering to the Code of Conduct for the trip and the school's Behavioural Policy.
- Ensuring that they have the necessary equipment or clothing as detailed by the trip leader to remain safe throughout the experience.
- Keeping pride in their presentation, understanding that they are representing the school whilst on an education trip.
- Ensuring that, during visits to outdoor spaces, they keep the area tidy and free from litter. This also applies to any vehicles used.
- Behaving in a manner which matches the ethos of the school, and for following the behaviour rules set out in the school's Behavioural Policy.

4. Training of Staff

4.1 Staff supporting or leading a school trip will receive training inline with this policy.

4.2 Trip leaders should ensure that all staff are fully briefed on their personal responsibilities during the trip.

4.3 Staff, where appropriate ,will receive regular and ongoing training as part of their CPD.

5. Planning School Trips

5.1 Prior to planning a school trip, the following guidance will be read and followed by the organisers:

- DfE (2018) 'Health and safety on educational visits'
- HSE (2011) 'School trips and outdoor learning activities

5.2 Staff wishing to plan and undertake a visit must follow the procedure which can be found in Appendix Two.

5.3 This uses Evolve as a recording system.

5.4 Timescales for seeking approval are included in Appendix Two. Generally speaking, the process for international trips should be approximately 12 months in advance, residentials at least six months, any other adventurous activity three months, and others at least 6 weeks in advance. It is appreciated that there will always be situations in which opportunities become available at short notice. These will be considered but safety will not be compromised.

5.5 All visits require planning preparation and levels of approval. This varies according to aspects of complexity and distance. These are explained in Appendix One, which enables staff to identify the level of risk associated with a visit. Staff should consult the EVC for support.

5.6. A thorough risk assessment will be conducted by the visit leader and reviewed by the EVC and OEA during the planning of the trip, to ensure pupils and staff safety.

5.7 The risk assessment, which is a separate document, should be uploaded to Evolve.

5.8 A risk assessment template is available on Evolve.

5.9 Adventurous activities will always be identified at the planning stage and never added during the trip.

5.10 When planning water sports activities, or activities close to or involving water, the need for instructors and lifeguards will be considered, particularly when using facilities which may not have a trained lifeguard present. This should include the use of a hotel swimming pool which requires a separate risk assessment.

5.11 The school will do everything in its power to ensure that all pupils are given an opportunity to participate in school trips, for example, organising two trips of a smaller group size or finding a venue which can cater for all pupils.

5.12 Where there is a maximum capacity for pupils for a trip, places will be allocated on a pre-determined basis. This may be by ballot, first come first served basis or by application. This will be clearly communicated to parents.

5.13 Consideration must be given to the use of outside providers.

5.14 It is good practice to take full advantage of the nationally accredited provider assurance schemes that are now available. These include.

- Learning Outside the Classroom (LOtC) Quality badge
- Adventure Activities Licensing Service (AALS)
- Adventure Mark
- National governing body (NGB) centre approval schemes
- Association of Heads of Outdoor Education Centres (AHOEC) Gold Standard

5.15 The use of non-accredited providers is possible for some adventurous activities as some of these activities do not fall within the above accreditation schemes. If the activities being provided fall within the scope of the AALS licensing, then the provider must have a license.

5.16 If they do not fall within the scheme, then an EVC1 form on Evolve must be completed by the provider.

5.17 If using a provider for residential accommodation including camp sites, an EVC2 form on Evolve must be completed.

6 Risk Assessment Process

6.1 The ATLPs risk assessment process is designed to manage risks when planning trips, while ensuring that learning opportunities are maximised.

6.2 The individual carrying out the risk assessment process will have the skills, status and competence needed for the role, understand the risks involved, and be familiar with the activity. The process is as follows:

- Identify the hazards.
- Decide who might be harmed and how.
- Evaluate the risks and decide on precautions.
- Record findings and implement them.
- Review assessment and update if necessary

6.3 It may be appropriate to use a trip specific risk assessment depending on the potential risks of the trip. This assessment will be completed via Evolve using the proforma contained within this system.

7 Preliminary Visits and Vetting Providers

7.1 When considering external providers for activities, the EVC will check whether they hold the 'Learning Outside the Classroom Quality Badge' (LOtC) to indicate they meet nationally recognised standards.

7.2 If a provider does not hold the LOtC badge, the EVC will check the following to ensure they are a suitable organisation to work with:

- Their insurance arrangements
- Their adherence to legal requirements
- Their control measures.
- Their use of vehicles
- Staff competency levels
- Safeguarding policies
- The suitability of their accommodation
- Any subcontracting arrangements in place
- The presence of necessary licences

7.3 If it is deemed appropriate to engage with an external provider, a written agreement will be created outlining what each party is responsible for.

7.4 If an organisation does not meet the school's standards, they will not be considered.

7.5 As part of this process the EVC should consider the providers' risk assessments. Generally speaking, if it is a public venue a risk assessment is not required or if the provider is a LOtC registered, this will have been checked out as part of the accreditation process.

7.6 In terms of accommodation providers, the checklist on the OEAP website can be used if a provider does not have accreditation.

7.7 All visits should be thoroughly researched to establish the suitability of the venue and to check that facilities and third-party provision meet the groups requirements. This is a vital dimension of risk assessment.

7.8 Wherever it is reasonably possible it is good practice to carry out a preliminary visit. If this is not possible then information should be gathered from other sources - websites/ brochures/ other users should be considered.

8. Equal opportunities

8.1 The school promotes values of equality and does not discriminate against any individual or group of pupils when organising a trip.

8.2 The extracurricular trips and activities offered to pupils will provide new experiences and develop life skills.

8.3 Extra-curricular trips and activities are organised, managed and conducted in accordance with the ATLP Equal Opportunities Policy; as such it is vital that students with SEND are not disadvantaged in any way.

8.4 Any individual, staff or otherwise, shown to be taking preference over one pupil or a group of pupils will be subject to formal disciplinary action.

8.5 Where possible, pupils will be given the opportunity to contribute to the planning and organisation of extracurricular trips and activities.

8.6 For school trips that require additional payment, the fee will be reasonable, and help will be provided where possible for pupils who cannot afford the initial fee.

8.7 Further guidance can be found in the ATLP Charging and Remissions Policy.

9. Safe use of minibuses and seatbelts

Please make reference to The ATLP Transport Policy and the School Minibus policy

10. Parental Consent

10.1 Parental consent is not generally required for every off-site activity that takes place during school hours. An annual /blanket consent form may be used. However, it is good practice that parents are made aware that these are happening if possible, to ensure emergency contact numbers are up to date and there have been no changes to the child's circumstances which school neds to be aware of.

10.2 Written consent is required for:

- Activities of an adventurous nature.
- Residential trips.
- Foreign trips.
- Trips outside of school hours.

10.3 If preferable and appropriate, parents may complete an **annual** consent form at the start of any academic year which gives consent for their child to be involved in any and all activities, both on and off-site.

10.4 Separate consent will be sought for trips which require payment.

10.5 Parents will be informed of activities by letter or email and will have the opportunity to withdraw their child from taking part.

11 Staffing ratios/ Effective Supervision

11.1 School must ensure that the staffing of visits enables leaders to supervise young people effectively. Decisions about the staffing and supervision should be considered:

- The nature and duration of the visit and the planned activities (including the type of activity, skill levels involved time of year and prevailing weather conditions).
- Age and development of the group, including ability (special learning needs, behavioural needs, medical and vulnerability characteristics).
- Gender and gender issues.
- The location and environment in which the activity is to take place.
- The nature of the group, including the number of young people and their age, level of development, gender, ability, and needs (behavioural, medical, emotional, and educational).
- Staff experience and competence.
- The consequence of a member of staff being indisposed, particularly where they will be the sole leader with a group for any significant time.
- The impact of an emergency and the additional demands which staff may need to cope with.

11.2 Staffing ratios are a risk management issue and should be determined through the process of risk assessment. It is not possible to set down definitive staff/participant ratios for a particular age group or activity.

11.3 When calculating ratios for groups, the EVC must ensure that there are sufficient competent staff to effectively supervise the group during all aspects of the visit.

11.4 Staff from external providers should not be included in the supervision ratios. When using external providers, they hold responsibility for delivering the activity and ensuring the safe delivery of that activity. However, if school staff are concerned the activity must cease until they are reassured that it is safe.

11.5 School staff are required to supervise in a pastoral capacity during these periods for periods such as downtime, transport, and any other period when students are not directly instructed by the provider, the direct supervision of students become the responsibility of school staff. Effective and clear plans must be put in place.

11.6 It is essential that staff maintain effective supervision at all times.

11.7 When supervising children, the consumption of alcohol is not allowed. Further information can be found in OEAP guidance.

11.8 As a general rule and to help staff with their planning, ATLP in line with OEAP, recommend ratios of 1 to 10 for Key Stage Two and 1 to 15 for Key Stage Three. Smaller ratios for Key Stage One children. However, these are not definitive and depend upon the factors discussed above.

12. Duke of Edinburgh's Award

12.1 The Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DoE) is available through many schools.

12.2 All schools wishing to deliver the DoE must be a Directly Licensed Centre with the DoE and responsibility lies with them in accordance with their license with the DoE.

12.3 If school staff lead DoE expeditions, their personal qualifications should be outlined in the appropriate form on Evolve.

13. Insurance and Licensing

13.1 When planning activities of an adventurous nature in the UK, or overseas, the EVC will check that the provider of the activity holds a current licence.

13.2 ATLP will remain responsible for appropriate overall insurance cover for educational visits. Trip leaders should liaise with the EVC who, if necessary, will liaise with the insurance company about supplementary insurance cost for high-risk activities or locations as per instructions in the school procedures.

13.3 Where a crime is committed against a member of the party, it will be reported to local Police as soon as possible.

13.4 Medical expenses will be recorded and stored by the EVC.

13.5 Wherever possible Fire Certificates should be checked and upon arrival at a residential setting, a fire alarm practice should be initiated. If this is not possible, pupils must be made aware of the process. Staff should ensure fire exits are kept clear and pupils are fully aware of the evacuation procedures.

13.6 Particular care should be taken when ferries are involved in terms of evacuation procedures. Staff are encouraged to keep pupils together and to raise awareness of any particular risks.

14. Accidents and Incidents: Emergency Procedures/ First Aid

14.1 The Risk Assessment for each activity and visit will identify the measures put in place to mitigate the risk. This should include any planned, unstructured or unsupervised time and include details of where and how the children can report to and access staff in the case of an incident.

14.2 Wherever possible, all trip members should carry an ID that includes an 'In Case of Emergency' (ICE) number. For visits extending beyond the school day, this includes designated home contact (EVC/DSL or other designated person), from school that may be needed as a link between the party, parents/carers and the school in the event of an emergency. In case of failure to communicate with the designated person then the critical incident plan will be referred to.

14.3 There is no legal requirement that all visits have a fully trained first aider on the visit, but this is considered good practice. First Aid training should be appropriate for the environment and the group. Appropriate First Aid kits should be carried at all times.

14.4 Key Stage One groups should have a paediatric First Aider with the group. Staff who are leading adventurous and additional risk activities must have had relevant first aid training.

14.5 When planning a trip, leaders should take into account the needs of students with specific medical conditions such as nut allergies, asthma or epilepsy. Wherever possible a member of staff trained in managing these conditions should accompany the trip. However, the lack of availability of a specifically trained person should not prevent a child from attending a trip.

14.6 When using a provider, checks should be made on first aid provision. For visits abroad or to isolated places, visit leaders must ensure they are aware of the location of additional first aid assistance and how to summon it.

14.7 All accidents must be reported using the Accidents Book at school.

14.8 Group Call (or equivalent) will be the designated method of communication to parents. However, trip leaders are encouraged to consider a backup such as a telephone tree.

14.9 Trip Leaders will have access to Group Call (or equivalent) or, trip leaders to be in regular contact with EVC(s) or designated person to send Group Call (or equivalent) messages on behalf of the trip. EVC to be included on the Group Call (or equivalent) list for all educational visits.

14.10 In the event of a significant delay or incident resulting in harm to any attending participant or staff member then the EVC(s) will be informed so they can decide:

- If the incident is of a less serious nature, then the next of kin or parents of those affected will be informed about what has happened and the action taken so far. It may be appropriate for the EVC to direct the trip leaders to undertake this task by using Group Call, (or equivalent).
- If the incident is serious, then the appropriate members of the leadership group will consider instigating the critical incident plan.

14.11 In the event of a fatal incident, the Health and Safety Executive will work with the police to investigate. Most serious accidents on school trips involve underlying management failures and HSE always looks for the underlying causes.

14.12 Any injury or death to a member of staff or child outside Great Britain may be subject to the law of the land on which injury or death occurred

14.13 In the case of accidents and injuries while on a school trip in the UK, the school's accident reporting process will begin, as detailed in the Health and Safety Policy.

14.14 In the case of accidents and injuries while on a school trip abroad:

- Organisers will cooperate fully with local emergency services and understand that any injury or death of a member of staff or pupil outside of Great Britain may be subject to the law of the land where the accident occurred.
- Where appropriate the ATLP Critical Incident Plan will be used, and the procedures contained therein followed. Trip leaders should be made aware of this plan and guidance given where needed.
- The first point of contact within the UK will be the headteacher or designated deputy who will implement the procedures as laid out in the Critical Incident Plan.
- Pupils will be asked not to contact friends or parents and advised against using social media.
- The British Embassy/Consulate will be informed where appropriate.
- The insurer will be notified.

14.15 Schools will keep written records of any incidents, accidents and near misses, these will be reported to the Operations and Estates Team in accordance with the Accident, Injury and Near Miss Policy.

14.16 Media enquiries will be referred to the ALTP Head of PR and Communications.

14.17 Employees will use guidance as set out in the Critical Incident Policy, in particular the 'after a critical incident' section, to ensure the safety of pupils and staff should anything happen, e.g., a terrorist attack.

14.18 Staff will be briefed on how to react and respond should an emergency situation occur, e.g., a terrorist attack or natural disaster.

14.19 Relevant risk assessments will be undertaken before the trip, including plans to visit places of interest such as museums and sites of special interest.

14.20 Pupils and staff will be informed of an evacuation plan before entering trip venues; this will include an agreed rendezvous point, to ensure everyone knows what to do in an emergency.

14.21. To ensure pupils are easily identifiable, it is good practice for school uniforms to be worn. Failing this, pupils will be given a badge with the school logo on which must be worn at all times or wear other school branded clothing e.g., trip hoody.

14.22. It is also good practice for students to carry an ID card which includes a photograph, emergency contact numbers (ICE) both of the staff accompanying the trip and contacts back at school.

15. Missing Person Procedure

15.1 The school places pupils and staff safety as its top priority when participating in school trips, either domestically or abroad.

15.2 Before embarking on the trip, extensive risk assessments are undertaken in accordance with section six of this policy

15.3 The visit leader and EVC will communicate with the venues of the school trips to ensure the correct group sizes are planned for each setting.

15.4 When a pupil with SEND is participating in an offsite activity, the visit leader and EVC will ensure that, where appropriate, an adult is always with them and that the visit is adequately modified to suit the pupil's needs in accordance with section 16 of this policy.

15.5 Everyone on the trip will be provided with contact details for members of staff, in the event they are unable to locate their group.

15.6 All staff members and pupils (secondary), where appropriate and if the situation demands, will be required to carry mobile phones with them at all times. If a pupil doesn't own a mobile phone, they will be paired up with a pupil who has a mobile phone.

15.7 Upon arriving at every venue, the trip leader will identify a rendezvous point where pupils and adults should go if they become separated from the rest of the group.

15.8 It is good practice for pupils and staff to wear school branded clothing, in accordance with the point 14.21 in order to make them easily identifiable. A buddy system may also be considered.

15.9 Regular headcounts of all pupils and staff will take place throughout the day to ensure all people are present at all times.

15.10 In the event someone goes missing whilst on a school trip domestically or abroad:

- The trip leader will ensure the safety of the remaining pupils and staff by taking a register to identify who is missing.
- The trip leader will immediately identify at least **one** adult to start looking for the person and another adult to contact them via phone. These people will look for the person until, where necessary, the Police arrive.
- Where possible, the venue will be notified of the missing person to help ensure the person is found quickly.
- If the person cannot be contacted or located within **15 minutes**, the local Police or relevant authorities will be contacted.
- If the Police are called, the trip leader will contact the **headteacher**, or other available person, back at the school and inform them of what has happened.

15.11 If the Police, or another authority, are called to an incident where someone is missing, they will oversee locating the person and will advise on factors including, but not limited to, when to contact next of kin.

15.12 If the missing person cannot be found, the group will return to school. If this is not possible, e.g., when a trip is taking place abroad, the EVC will make arrangements to ensure the group's safety, e.g., by changing venues or cancelling visits.

15.13 If a member of the party has gone missing and is subsequently found, the trip leader will:

- Review the group sizes and staffing ratios to ensure no one becomes separated from their group.
- Review whether more registers should be conducted throughout the day.
- Assess which venues they attend to ensure they are suitable for the group.
- Make recommendations to the EVC to ensure similar incidents can be avoided in the future.

16. Pupils with SEND

16.1 Where possible, activities and visits will be adapted to enable pupils with SEND to take part.

16.2 Where this is not possible, an alternative activity of equal educational value will be arranged for all pupils.

16.3 Pupils with SEND will be accompanied by a responsible adult during the extracurricular trip or visit.

17. Finance

17.1The financial procedures outlined in the ATLP Charging and Remissions Policy will always be followed when arranging trips.

17.2 The school will act in accordance with the DfE's guidance document 'Charging for school activities' (2018) and, therefore, will only charge for trips which are classed as an 'optional extra'. This is education provided outside of school time which is not:

- Part of the national curriculum.
- Part of a syllabus for an examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school.
- Part of religious education.

17.3 Money for school trips will always be paid directly to the school. Under no circumstances will school trip money be processed through personal accounts. 17.4 All letters to parents regarding school trips will include a clause explaining what will happen in the event that the trip is cancelled, or a pupil cancels their place on the trip.

17.5 In the event that the trip is cancelled due to unforeseeable circumstances, it is at the CEO'S discretion as to whether a refund is given to parents.

17.6 In the event that a pupil cancels their place on a trip, it is at the **headteacher's** discretion as to whether a refund is given to parents. However details of cancellation arrangements should be clearly detailed in the initial correspondence to parents outlining the arrangements for the trip Trip leaders must take account any specific requirements relating to travel linked to the pandemic including advice from the DfE the Home Office, Foreign Office and the school insurance company.

17.7 However, the school will take a common-sense approach to refunds and cancellations, ensuring that all pupils are treated equally.

17.8 Any charge made in respect of pupils will not exceed the actual cost of providing the trip divided equally by the number of pupils participating.

17.19 Any excess expenditure will be subsidised by the school fund. 17.20 Staff must be aware of the current travel restrictions due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Current guidance as issued by the DfE in relation to school trips must be followed and advice sought in regard to deposits and any monies collected and paid to external companies.

17.21 Staff should also seek advice from the ATLP Insurance Company before any money is paid out during the current situation as regulations are constantly changing.

18 Foreign trips

18.1 It is acknowledged that international trips require a substantial amount of planning and preparation. The process of seeking approval for such ventures should start approximately 12 months before the trip is planned.

18.2 When planning school trips abroad, the school will consider the Foreign and Commonwealth Office's guidance 'Safer adventure travel and volunteering overseas' (2015) and, where an activity poses significant

risks, the school will also consult the 'British Standard' for 'adventurous activities outside the UK'

18.3 Validity of passports and visa requirements will be dealt with at least three **months** of the initial notification of the trip, to avoid problems when the trip is due to take place.

18.4 Staff and pupils will be taught about the culture and values of the country they are visiting, to ensure they understand and respect the values of the citizens.

18.5 Before the trip, staff are made aware of the current threat levels available from the Home Office and consider how they will respond in terms of suspicious behaviour abroad. Pupils should be made aware of the Run Hide Tell strategy in case of a terrorist attack.

18.6 Before the trip, pupils will be taught how to remain vigilant in the country they are visiting, particularly about advances from strangers.

18.7 Registers will be taken at regular intervals, as well as before, during, and after events, and at regular intervals whilst on days out to ensure the whereabouts of pupils are known at all times.

18.8 Staff are encouraged to arrange a buddy system with pupils. Pupils are encouraged to look after and check on their buddy during the visit.

18.9 Staff will check the town/city's local news regularly, to ensure their planned activities are safe to go ahead.

18.10 Wherever possible a minimum of **two** members of staff attending the trip will have at least an intermediate understanding of the destination country's language.

18.111 At the start of the trip, all pupils and staff will be provided with an emergency contact sheet, this will include the trip leader's mobile phone number, as well as emergency numbers and phrases for the country they are visiting.

18.12 When using external providers abroad, the school will check whether the provider holds an equivalent of the 'Learning Outside the Classroom Quality Badge'. If no such equivalent can be ascertained, the school will make checks in the same manner as paragraph 7.2 prior to agreeing to use the provider.

19. Evaluating trips and visits.

19.1 Following an educational trip/visit, the **visit leader** will meet with staff members present on the trip to assess the success of the trip in respect of both educational value and safeguarding effectiveness.

19.2 Based on this assessment, recommendations will be made to improve future trips and visits.

20. Monitoring and review

20.1 The effectiveness of this policy will be monitored by the headteacher.

20.2 The Trust Board will review this policy annually.

Appendix One

https://oeapng.info/search_gcse/?q=RADAR%20DIAGRAM

This document gives clear guidance as to how to assess the specific risks presented by a visit or trip.

In taking into account the distance from school, the staff, the group, activity and the environment enables both the Visits Leader and the EVC to determine what planning and preparation is required for the visit to take place in terms of risk assessments.

Based upon a simple radar diagram this can also be used to cut down on paperwork and bureaucracy. Further details are available from the OEAP document.

Appendix Two

1.Suggested procedure for an International /high risk / adventurous residential visit

Please note that the process below outlines all the documentation that must be completed prior to your trip. As much notice as possible should be given, 12 months for international trips and at least 6 months for other residentials. This procedure is a general guide and may be modified to suit different schools across the ATLP.

	Action	Who & where?
1	Trip Proposal	www.evolv
	 Please have an informal conversation with your EVC prior to submitting an online request to check the feasibility of the trip and the proposed dates. 	<u>e.online</u> Please see your EVC if there are
	 No further arrangements should be made until the trip has been approved in principle by your EVC/HT. 	any difficulties in logging on.
	 In some schools this may involve presenting the trip to the LG to acquire initial consent. 	
	 Once initial consent is gained. 	
		EVC/HT/
2	Parental meeting/ Letter to prospective parents It is recommended to hold an initial parental meeting, or launch the trip via letter, to gauge interest from parents. This will show whether the trip is financially viable before any further planning takes place. This gives the leader the opportunity to spell out our expectations and gives parents and students the chance to seek	Book parental meeting. Fill in out of hours

	additional information to help them make a more informed decision. It also gives the leader the opportunity to enforce the message that this is a proposed trip at this stage and needs further approval.	booking form
3	Trip Outline Proposal	
	Please note that you should submit your plan to the EVC /OEA for approval at least 12 months (where appropriate) before the planned date. In certain circumstances a shorter time frame may be considered.	
	Trip Leaders to attend a Leadership Group meeting if appropriate or meet with EVC and HT and present the following information about the trip.	
	 Rationale for Overseas Cultural, political, and health considerations when travelling to that country. Trip leaders to refer to current home office guidance <u>https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice</u> A comprehensive, itemised financial list must be presented and include wherever possible: - Flight costs and transfers Accommodation Activities Specialised Clothing Student Spending Money Trip leaders are also encouraged to consider creating a 	
	small 5-10% buffer of contingency to allow for inflation and exchange rate fluctuations.	
	 4. Staffing and Student Numbers i. The Trip Leader should propose staffing and include their relevant experience, expertise, qualifications (if appropriate). Trip leaders should ensure staff are selected in an open and transparent manner with considerations being given to previous experience, the gender and age breakdown of the party, and impact on learning, 	

particularly on exam groups and on cover. Experience with SEN students or those with particular medical conditions will also need to be taken into consideration. A Deputy Trip Leader should be designated who must be involved in the trip planning and able/ experienced enough to take over in full if the Leader became ill or incapacitated on the trip. The proposal should contain proposed numbers of ii. students, based on interest gauged. Details and rationale of the process for getting a place on the trip needs to be stated e.g., ballot/waiting list. The arrangements for students with additional needs but be worked out. 5. Costings If the trip is over £10,000 three quotes must be obtained to demonstrate best value and preferred quote must be presented and rationale provided as not all best value guotes will be the best trip. For example, some considerations may include type/ mode of travel; flying as opposed to coach; poor flight times; departure from non-local airport; long transfer upon arrival; accommodation/ hostel/hotel/ presence of other schools; number of free staff places; evening activities included. Ensure all companies have ATOL and ABTA (that is up to date) and consider asking tour companies for a named contact of 2 or 3 local schools who have travelled with them recently. Please also research companies and venues using Trip Advisor. Please note: No money must be paid out to tour operators/trip providers until costs have been submitted to Finance and until Submit approval has been granted. The Budget statement should forms on provide an accurate and traceable audit. Evolve to EVC/HT/O ΕA

 Once approval is received in principle from EVC/OEA/HTplease follow the steps below. Finance: Prepare budget with Finance and fill in educational visits budget planner (in resources tab of evolve) in full, including cover costs. Before any trip can be booked the trip leader will need to check that the supplier has been approved by ATLP. If the supplier is not an approved supplier, the trip leader will need to ATLP before anything is booked. Set up Parent Pay accounts and decide payment schedule with finance Finance must check the letter before it is sent out. Trip Leaders should be aware of any vulnerable students or students that may bonofit from this activity but would 	Liaise with Finance to complete form.
 or students that may benefit from this activity but would struggle financially. Advice can be sought from finance. Finance to inform trip leaders of any student that is not following the suggested payment deadlines. Parents should be made fully aware of financial penalties for dropping out. Please note a letter will not be sent until arrangements have been made with finance. Admin: 	
 Admin: Admin support members of staff to be briefed on arrangements if appropriate. Copy of dorm requests in male and female tab on Evolve. Records of returned codes of conduct, medical details, passport numbers and passport nationality, date of birth to be maintained by the office Copies of passports to scanned and stored centrally with 	Trip support and transport booking
	 EVC/OEA/HTplease follow the steps below. Finance: Prepare budget with Finance and fill in educational visits budget planner (in resources tab of evolve) in full, including cover costs. Before any trip can be booked the trip leader will need to check that the supplier has been approved by ATLP. If the supplier is not an approved supplier, the trip leader will need to complete a 'new supplier' form for me to submit to ATLP before anything is booked. Set up Parent Pay accounts and decide payment schedule with finance Finance must check the letter before it is sent out. Trip Leaders should be aware of any vulnerable students or students that may benefit from this activity but would struggle financially. Advice can be sought from finance. Finance to inform trip leaders of any student that is not following the suggested payment deadlines. Parents should be made fully aware of financial penalties for dropping out. Please note a letter will not be sent until arrangements have been made with finance. Copy of dorm requests in male and female tab on Evolve. Records of returned codes of conduct, medical details, passport numbers and passport nationality, date of birth to be maintained by the office

	 Appropriate deadlines to be set and nominated admin member of staff work towards these and inform trip leader of any concerns or outstanding paperwork as appropriate. Staff emergency contact details and next of kin to be collated Admin to prepare appropriate staff folders as directed by the trip leader. Trip leader folder, staff folders, EVC folders and centrally stored electronic folder with access for all members of leadership group. Critical incident plan to be 	
	 included in staff/EVC folders. Trip leaders need to ensure that all students have photo consent. 	
4 c	 Transport Liaise School Office to book coaches and transport (price should be incorporated into costings) and clearly state pick up and drop off points and approximate timings or Confirm minibus (please calculate cost per mile currently 50p per mile and add into costings for the trip) Is there an appropriate number of drivers for the minibus? Suggested minimum of two drivers. Maximum driving time 2hours 30mins or 150 miles before swapping drivers. This will need to be included on the appropriate section of the risk assessment. 	Liaise school office
4 d	 Letter- Draft letter to parents (see example on the resources tab of Evolve), should include: Trip requirements, arrangements for meetings and payment plans Cancellation costs and deposit details. The code of conduct must reflect laws of the land the trip is visiting as well as UK laws for alcohol consumption, age of consent, smoking and purchasing of dangerous items such as knives. Dormitory arrangements, KIT LISTS and Specialised Clothing & any supplementary medical details. Copy of passport information required. 	When complete send via email EVC for checking PRIOR TO distribution

	 Trip Leaders are to consider if a Parental Information Evening is an appropriate forum for launching the trip. 	
5	 Liaise with other school staff. Compile a list of students that are going on the trip: Send a list to key staff members so that any potential concerns can be flagged early. Identify any areas of SEN, medical, emotional or behaviour needs to ensure that these are taken into account. Liaise with SEN team. Please ensure that there are sufficient staff going on the trip who are First Aid trained, epi-pen trained, Diabetic trained, if needed on the trip. Ensure that they are written in the risk assessment. Consider a personalised risk assessment for students with exceptional SEN, emotional, behaviour or medical needs. Arrange a meeting with parents/carers where appropriate. Staff should be aware of the legal requirements of the disability and discrimination act Staff should seek information from parents about any preexisting medical conditions. These should be relayed to the insurance company to ensure that an appropriate cover is in place. Seek advice from the SEN team and Office Manager about appropriate members of support staff. 	Phase leaders/ SENCO/ HoY/ College Heads
6	have specific transportation needs. If LSA are being used to support 1-1 then they should be included in the above and beyond your staff ratios rather than as a staff member. Risk Assessment - Complete risk assessment (see form for guidance on details) Include with Risk Assessment: Teacher Emergency Forms & contacts	Shared with EVC/OEA via Evolve
	 Complete staff & student consent and emergency contact 	

	 Emergency contact details for staff to be collated and placed in the EVC folder Contact the school insurance company via the business manager for confirmation all activities are covered by the existing policy. 	Any advice, recommen dations/ guidance to be acted upon and assessme nts modified accordingl y
7	Final Checks & Confirmation	Finance
	 Arrange a pre-departure meeting - see an outline example on the resources tab of Evolve 	Finance team
	 Finance- Ensure all payments have been received at least in line with the payment plan. 	
	 Staff – arrange a pre-departure meeting with staff so they know the logistics and any students they may be responsible for. 	EVC/OEA
	 Contingency plan- Are you aware of the emergency plan (critical incidence plan) and have EVC or designated staff mobile number 	
	 School mobile – pick up school mobile and charger 3 days prior to travel and ensure there is credit and charge up. 	
	 Trip Leaders to be responsible for adding staff personal mobile numbers on documentation. 	
	 Cover: Ensure that LoAs are completed by all staff as soon as staffing is confirmed 	
	 DSL: Check who will be acting in the role of DSL whilst the trip is taking place 	
8	Notify	
	 Email your trip details to staff briefing, including names of students in one-week advance of the trip. Ensure Site team are aware of any after school arrangements that involve site. Prior booking of gate key 	
	from the office and in potential low light conditions	

	 consider asking for the school parking lights to be kept on or an alternative pick up and drop off point. If a significant number of students will be absent for lunchtime, prior to the trip (a week before) speak to the catering manager to inform. Also consider the provision of FSM for appropriate pupils on that day. 	
9	 On the day of the trip Register is left with reception Ensure you collect First Aid Box/Epi Pens/Care Plans prior to journey. Care must be taken with any personal information which should be shredded or returned after the trip Medicine taken from school must be returned on the day of the trip or if returning afterschool must be brought into school before school the following day. 	

<u>Checklist</u>

Question to consider	Have		Have you?		Further notes
	Y	N			
	es	0			
Do you have confirmation from the appropriate people? (EVC/HT/OEA)					
Have you ensured that you have covered all costs					
and had financial forms approved?					
(remember the school minibus mileage must be included.)					
Have you completed the finance form and set up					
parent pay/liaised with Finance?					
Have you checked all passports/ visas are up to					
date and in order?					
Have you checked all students have had any					
required vaccinations or have begun taking any					
specified medication (anti malaria tablets)?					
Where appropriate have you collected them in					
ready for departure? Have you completed an approved Risk					
Assessment in place that has been checked by					
EVC/OEA? Have any recommendations/guidance					
been followed and the plan adjusted.					
Have you shared this with your staff?					
Have you sent a list of students to?					
A. 'Trip list' email account to get medical					
details					
B. SEN details					
C. Student support services					
Have you got relevant insurance if needed? School insurance will cover most incidents but					
ensure that the business manager has had the					
conversation with the insurance company.					
If in term time, have you confirmed with EVC and					
cover that staff that have been agreed to go?					
Have you and your staff set your cover work as					
per your department requirements?					
Have you got access to or set up group call?					
Have you let the site team know and business					
manager of any arrangements- especially if you					
are arriving after school hours or on a weekend?					
Have you signed out a gate key if appropriate? Are you confident you have the staff, with relevant					
expertise and experience for the trip?					
Have you checked that all the students have					
paid?					

Where appropriate have you collected in any spending money from the students?		
Have attending staff read the critical incident plan and know what to do in case of an emergency?		
Have you checked the current Home Office information for the country you are visiting?		
Have you put a contingency plan, such as Group call updates in place if you are late back or stuck in traffic?		
All child protection measures are in place? Have you got a clear child protection system in place? Who will act in the role of a DSL and what are your reporting measures? Have any staff (or student) volunteers received safeguarding training?		
 Have you arranged your pre-departure meetings? EVC SEN and SSS managers Staff members in attendance Pre-departure for parents and carers 		

Suggested procedure to follow when planning day visit, close to school, non-adventurous.

	Action	Who & where?
1	Trip Request Form- Complete trip request form on Evolve at least 6 weeks in advance	where a second s
	 Please note: No further arrangements should be made until the trip has received outline approval from EVC/OEA OEA will have no further involvement if the trip does not present as adventurous or requires any special consideration. Email will confirm or decline the outline trip request 	Form submitted for outline approval
2 a	 Finance - complete Page 2 and give it to finance: include the following info: Prepare a budget with Finance, including programme, transport, and staff. Before booking your trip, please ensure that your supplier/provider is an ATLP approved Supplier/Provider. If you are not sure, please check this with the finance team before making any bookings. Set up Parent Pay accounts Include Cost of trip & Income collection sheet completed Trip Leaders should be aware of any vulnerable students or students that may benefit from this activity but would struggle financially. Advice can be sought from HOS and finance. Finance to inform trip leaders for any student that is not following the suggested payment deadlines. Finance to inform trip leaders of any student who has overpaid for the trip prior to trip departure. 	You must see Finance to discuss the financial aspect of the trip and the setting up of Parent Pay. When complete uploading the excel file onto Evolve platform

2 b	 Please note a letter will not be sent until arrangements have been made with finance. Admin – Admin support members of staff to be briefed on arrangements. Appropriate deadlines to be set and admin member of staff work towards these and inform the trip leader of any concerns or outstanding paperwork as appropriate. 	
2 c	 Transport Book coaches (price should be incorporated into costings) and clearly state pick up and drop off points and approximate timings OR Confirm minibus (please calculate cost per mile and add into costings for the trip) Is there an appropriate number of drivers for the minibus? Suggested minimum of two drivers. Maximum driving time 2hours 30mins or 150miles before swapping drivers. This will need to be included in the appropriate section of the risk assessment. 	Liaise with school office
2	Letter- Draft letter to parents available on the staff website	When
d	 Trip requirements, costs, arrangements for meetings and payment plans Date, proposed itinerary and outcomes Cancellation costs and deposit details. Code of conduct, kit lists and specialised clothing & any supplementary medical details. 	complete upload letter onto the Evolve system
3	Liaise with other key staff including SEN, Medical etc	

	 Compile a list of students that are going on the trip to: Ensure you have consent for all students (check the blanket consent list on the website) Identify any areas of SEN, medical, emotional or behaviour needs to ensure that these are considered. Ensure that they are written in risk assessment. Consider a personalised risk assessment for students with exceptional SEN, emotional, behaviour or medical needs. Arrange a meeting with parents/carers where appropriate. Staff should be aware of the legal requirements of the disability and discrimination act Staff should seek information from parents about any pre-existing medical conditions. These should be relayed to the insurance company to ensure that an appropriate cover is in place. Seek advice from the SEN team and Office Manager about appropriate members of support staff 	Liaise with SENCO for SEND needs Liaise RE Medical Details Liaise with Phase leaders/HoY and PLs for any students you are concerned about
4	 be included in above and beyond your staff ratios rather than as a staff member. Risk Assessment- Complete risk assessment: Risk Assessment template can be found on Evolve under the Resources tab Complete staff consent and emergency contact Emergency contact details for staff to be collated and placed in the EVC folder Consider contacting the school insurance company via business manager for confirmation all activities are covered by the existing policy. 	Upload onto Evolve system
5	Final Approval	Submit your trip for final

	 Submit your trip request for final approval. Your trip is not approved to go out until final approval has been given 	approval on Evolve
6	Final Checks & Confirmation	
		Finance:
	 Finance- Ensure all payments have been received at least 2 days before the trip Arrange a pre-departure meeting. Finalise arrangements Finance- Ensure all payments have been received at least in line with the payment plan. STAFF – arrange a pre-departure meeting with staff so they know the logistics and any students they may be responsible for. Contingency plan- Are you aware of the emergency plan (critical incidence plan) and have EVC or designated staff mobile number School Mobile – pick up school mobile and charger 3 days prior to travel and ensure there is credit and charge up if available Trip Leaders to be responsible for adding staff personal mobile numbers to documentation. 	
7	Notify	
	 Email your trip details to staff briefing including names of students 	
	 Ensure Site team are aware of any after school arrangements that involve site. Prior booking of gate key from the office and in potential low light conditions consider asking for the school parking lights to be kept on or an alternative pick up and drop off point. If a significant number of students will be absent for lunchtime, prior to the trip (a week before) speak to the catering manager to inform. Also consider the provision of FSM for appropriate pupils on that day. 	
8	On the day of the trip	
	Register is left with reception	

•	Ensure you collect First Aid Box/Epi Pens prior to	
	journey (if leaving afterschool – please collect after	
	3.25pm and not before). All care plans should be	
	taken out of school in the red folder provided, which	
	must then be returned to the school office in line	
	with GDPR.	
•	Medicine taken from school must be returned on the day of the trip or if returning afterschool must be brought to school before school the following day.	
•	All contact lists (which have been anonymised in line with GDPR) should be returned to the office for shredding.	
•	Minibus keys and yellow forms are collected if appropriate.	
•	Minibus returned in line with the minibus policy.	
•	Ensure EVC folders are left with the appropriate people.	

FINANCE

- 1. Please liaise with the finance team for support with the budget planning and parent pay side of the trip
- 2. Fill in the budget planning template which can be found on the resources tab of the Evolve system and upload onto the Evolve platform
- 3. All money must be passed through the school's main budget banking system. (It is no longer permissible to use the School Fund bank account)
- 4. Each visit must be recorded on a separate set of accounts, however, where different groups of students have the same visit on different days.
- 5. Collect contributions from students **before** spending money on tickets, entrance charges, transport costs etc. and subjects will be liable for any outstanding costs/balance
- Before booking your trip, please ensure that your supplier/provider is an ATLP Approved Supplier/Provider. If you are not sure, please check this with the finance team before making any bookings. If you have any questions, please ask.