15 September 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

Finland Arctic Trip February 2027 for YEAR 8

We are excited to provide you with details of an exciting opportunity that we have been planning with 'Adventure Apes' our activity partner in Finland, at the beginning of the Lent term in 2027.

We have been working with Adventure Apes for 7 years now and are delighted to share with you details of our next Artic Winter Adventure! Their approach to outdoor learning and character development is very much in line with our school's vision and they have proved time and again that they are a world class trip provider.

This trip is only being offered to students in Year 8.

This trip is a chance to experience something quite fantastic whist focussing on the development of character through our Pillars; Excellence, Leadership, Integrity & Community.

We'll be based from their lodge on the edge of the Arctic Circle where we have sole occupancy and access to the outdoors from the doorstep.

Activities include igloo building (and an overnight stay in it), ice skating, ice fishing, snow shoeing and cross country skiing not to mention the use of a traditional wood fired Finnish sauna.

All food (excluding travel days), accommodation and specialist equipment are included in the price as well as flights, and transfers in Finland to and from the venue. The staff there are truly outstanding.

Now is the time to register your interest in the trip – and places book up fast. There are two trips going out and there is no option to choose which trip is allocated to your child if they are successful in gaining a place. You must be willing to travel on either trip date.

If you would like to register an interest then please use this link to complete the Microsoft form.
Finland Arctic Trip 2027 – Fill in form
The deadline for this is midnight Friday 2/10/26.

If you complete the form after this deadline, you will only be offered a place if there is space.
This trip is not allocated on a 'first come, first served' basis. If the trip is oversubscribed by the deadline, then a ballot will take place to determine who is allocated.

Dates are to be confirmed but are anticipated to be either 10 to 15 February 2027 or 19 to 24 February 2027.

Due to the location and the nature of the adventure this is an expensive trip.
The approximate cost per person is £1,700. This can fluctuate based on flight prices and final numbers.

Payment will be taken in stages and we are open to discussion to support you with this.

Reading School is an Academy Trust which operates as an exempt charity and a company limited by guarantee, not having share capital.
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Those in receipt of Pupil Premium may be offered some support through the Reading Promise. Please contact Tom Evans tevans@reading-school.co.uk if your child is in receipt of PP funding and you'd would like them to go on the trip.

Visas:
Please note that your son will have to be in the possession of an EHIC/GHIC Card and a Passport valid for the proposed duration of the stay and photocopies of these will need to be sent when requested.
Please note that parents are also responsible for ensuring a student's eligibility to travel: any additional VISA required will have to have to be arranged by parents at your own cost. Since the pandemic and Brexit there have been some changes to international travel rules.
There is considerable uncertainty in relation to visa arrangements to the Schengen area prior to the introduction of ETIAS in 2026. Ensuring that your son has all the relevant paperwork and the visa's required for entry remains a parental responsibility. As such you should budget accordingly for any associated costs.

In the event of entry being refused to a Schengen country, you would be required to make immediate arrangements for the collection of your son and would not be eligible for any refund.

We are more than happy to provide a visa letter in support of any application, however Reading School staff are unable to offer advice on visa requirements.

Travel Insurance:
Reading School's travel insurance covers all activities taking place during the trip, but does not protect against cancellation due to your son's illness, covid status or other eventualities. Therefore, we recommend that you purchase your own travel insurance to mitigate this risk as refunds cannot be provided.

Under the Education Reform Act, the costs of the visit must be met by voluntary contributions. The visit can only take place if the parents of all participating pupils are prepared voluntarily to meet the full cost. There is no obligation to pay the voluntary contributions, but we must make it clear the trip will not take place if parents are reluctant to support it as there are no other funds available to finance the trip.

If your son is in receipt of Pupil Premium, financial support may be available: please check details of the Reading Promise on the school website and submit any claims using the associated form.

Cases of financial hardship will be dealt with sympathetically and confidentially by the school. Please contact me if there are any concerns of this nature.

There are certain precautions we must take before taking your child on the proposed visit. In respect of Health & Safety regulations and insurance, we require the assurance of yourself and your child that the rules of behaviour set out in the Code of Conduct for Educational Visits will be adhered to both before and during the visit.

You will appreciate that the school has no control over the tour operators, airlines, hotels and other organisations involved. By reserving a place on the trip you and your son accept that the School has no responsibility for the default of the tour operators or other organisations and that in the event of an Act of God or any other circumstance whether involving health and safety, security, behaviour or otherwise, the School can in its discretion curtail, cancel or revise the tour at any time without recompense.

Please get in touch if you have any queries regarding the trip.

Best wishes,

David Tridgell
Director of Character