

15 April 2016

Dear Parent/Carer

### Overseas Travel



Further to a recent enquiry regarding a planned school trip abroad, I write to reassure you that Midlothian Council is currently following guidance regarding foreign travel which is provided by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office for the country of destination regarding any current issues or safety considerations at the time of travel. In addition, advice is also sought from the Scottish Advisory Panel for Outdoor Education (SAPOE). This is a forum for representatives from Local Authorities across Scotland which considers and debates best practice in the development, delivery and safety of Outdoor Learning, which includes overseas visits.

As a parent/carer you will be informed of any decisions that the school/establishment may arrive at prior to each overseas excursion as soon as possible, however you will appreciate that it is not an easy task too far in advance of each trip. At present we can however assure you that the safety of our pupils and staff are our highest priority and we will continue to follow the most up to date advice and guidance from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

However, should you wish to reconsider your child's attendance with any school trip, we would encourage you to make contact directly with the school/establishment involved, as soon as possible to discuss if any, implications in this regard.

Yours sincerely

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