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Mr K Moffat

Dear Parent / Guardian,

### **CERN trip 2019-20**

The Large Hadron Collider (LHC) is the world's largest experiment and most powerful particle accelerator. It first started up on 10 September 2008, and remains the latest addition to CERN's accelerator complex. The LHC consists of a 27-kilometre ring of superconducting magnets with a number of accelerating structures to boost the energy of the particles along the way. Famous for providing evidence got the Higgs Boson, creating the internet and making antimatter. CERN continues to lead the world in High Energy Physics.

In a change to the previous CERN trip our intention this year is to spend 4 nights in Geneva, flying out rather than travelling by coach. We intend to stay in Geneva itself rather than in France. This will allow students to see more of Geneva and have more freedom in the evening. Changing the timing of the trip to activities week in the summer will mean longer, lighter evenings and warmer weather. Our aim is to include the following in the trip.

- Return flights to Geneva from Gatwick (meet at Gatwick)
- CERN – a visit to the large Hadron Collider; we intend to spend a more time here compared to previous years and, if possible, to enter the actual tunnels containing the LHC.
- Afternoon and early evening visit to Chamonix and Mt Blanc (Travel to Chamonix included)
- Geneva lake trip (cost included)
- Explore Geneva
- Visit the United Nations (cost included)
- Visit the Red Cross museum (cost included)
- A traditional Swiss meal (cost included)
- A social event, likely to be bowling and pizza (cost included)

Basing ourselves in Geneva, including a public transport travel pass, allows students greater opportunity to explore the city during their free time than has previously been possible. This could include Museums and art Galleries such as the Natural history museum, Science museum, The Art History Museum, 19 parks, chocolate factories and cheese makers.

Our aim is to bring the cost of this in at £550-600 (although this is dependent on accommodation costs) and we will be asking for commitment and the initial deposits of £150 in September.

Although Physics students will have first refusal for the trip any remaining places will be available to other year 12 students and will be of particular interest to students studying Design, Language (mainly French) and the other sciences.

Yours Sincerely

Steve Bilclough

Head of Physics

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