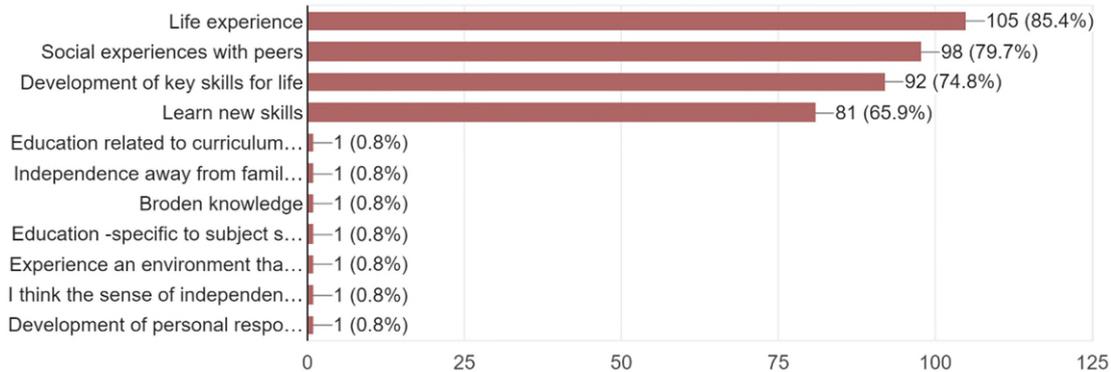


EDUCATIONAL VISITS CONSULTATION MACKIE ACADEMY JULY 2022

What do you think the purpose of residential educational visits should be? (tick as many as you like)

123 responses



If you said 'other' what would that be?

Education related to curriculum of courses being studied

Learning about the place they are visiting, its history, its people, its geography

Visit places which might be of interest to them only. il but not the rest of a family, for example Iceland or Morocco. l but not to the whole family -for example, previous trips t Iceland or Morocco.

Broaden

Education

Broadens horizons, instils a sense of curiosity and self-efficacy...

Enjoy the 'classroom' in a different location, broaden your horizons

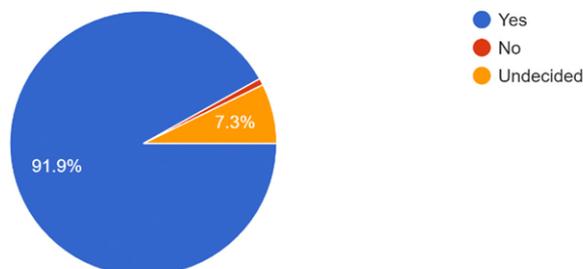
Experiencing cultures and environments

Development of personal responsibility, time keeping, well-being, and new friendships. "My son went away on that trip as a little boy and came back as a young man".

Re-establishing Educational Visits

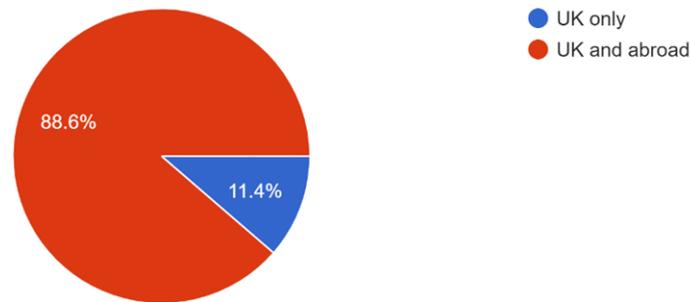
Are you in favour of Mackie Academy re-engaging in residential educational visits, outside of curriculum time, that are open for any student to participate in?

123 responses



Do you think visits should remain within the UK or be able to travel abroad?

123 responses



Cost of Residential Visits

The school, in the past, has run residential educational visits both within the UK and abroad. The cost of these visits varies as follows:

Around £300-£400 for a weekend visit to a location in the UK plus activities

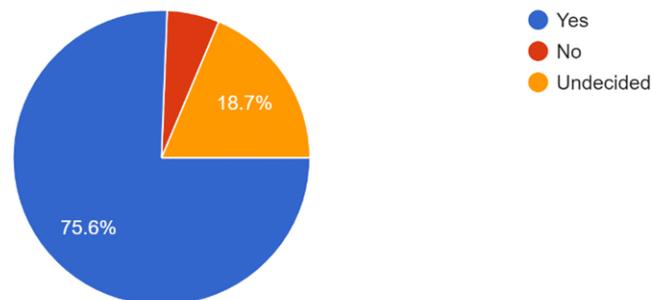
Around £1500 for a week's ski trip to Austria all-inclusive

Around £3000 for a 10-day visit to west coast USA all-inclusive

World Challenge is also an opportunity staff would like to explore and it is based on students fundraising towards their participation. The location being considered is Morocco with the trip lasting 13 nights and a cost of approximately £2400 per challenger.

Do you believe that the school should continue to offer opportunities in these price ranges where staff are prepared to support them going forwards?

123 responses



If you would like to give any further detail based on your response above please do so.

Perhaps some other trips in the mid range not just skiing as could be educational city break trips to capitals like Berlin, Madrid, Rome, Venice, Barcelona, Paris etc that would be equally beneficial and in the mid range of prices so those that want to go abroad but don't want to ski also have an option.

I think these should still be on offer but look to reduce cost as much as possible. I do however feel that we should not be offering trips that cost in excess of £2000. I also think its a goodidea for thr group going to engage in as much fundraising as possible to help offset the cost which could then make it viable for those children who's families may be struggling to afford it.

I think only affordable trips should be offered that are directly related to courses being studied. Funds should be raised so that all students who would benefit can afford to attend. These are virtually unaffordable prices for many in Stonehaven. The previous activity days where costs were minimal gave similar experiences eg outward bound style at much more affordable cost

Would need to weigh up risks of Covid interruption to residential trip, impact of participants pulling out of trip late on etc as this affects costs for all. It is important that residential opportunities are provided but risk assessments more vital now, trips should be more accessible in terms of costs and geographical proximity

Many people are facing poverty

Are there opportunities to pay for trips for under 16's using Childcare vouchers?

But with some kind of support for pupils who cannot afford this. Trips shouldn't be elitist and open only to those on higher incomes.

There should also be a fundraising in order to bring prices down and cheaper options for local day trips.

European trips which are not skiing would be good to offer too - linked to subjects such as but not limited to geography, history etc

Would love the trips to return! Huge life experiences

Have mixed feelings regarding the very costly trips. Whilst I am all in favour of the young people being offered life learning experiences I am also aware that there is a massive equity issue for lower income families. I do not support trips that do not have an educational or skill development purpose.

I think travel to the USA for £3000 is too expensive and rules out too many students. Europe is cheaper!!

I think there needs to be an alternative cheaper option too and for all options a fair number of participants is also important. If oversubscribed names picked out of the hat after a fair period in which pupils can register their interest. Not first come first served.

Maybe qualified/experienced parents with relevant disclosure could assist, taking pressure off teaching staff and harnessing skills in our community.

I think these opportunities provide our young people with great new life experiences
I thought the USA trip was lacking in any educational substance and was incredibly elitist with a £3k price tag per child. The option to fundraise to go on a trip sounds more inclusive for all. In my experience, families like the opportunity to send one child at a time, which makes things affordable

I would like there to be some means tested financial assistance through either fundraising, bursaries or grants (or similar) to allow all pupils the opportunity

Some more trips in the mid range £1000-1500 bracket that include Europe but not just skiing. Cultural trips to European capitals, historical trips to places involved in wars in Belgium/Poland/Germany/France or literacy is Anne Frank and Amsterdam or culture, Paris, Rome, Venice, Barcelona, Madrid etc

International trips are too expensive for some families, sets up division between better and worse off families.

Fundraising, so that all can be included is important.

The school should try to make the cost as low as possible. Also give the chance of a pay up option. I missed out on trips because of the expense and I don't believe this should be fair

I think it's a great experience and to see the world outside from what they hv now. It was a shame my daughter's US trip was cancelled as she had done a lot of research and savings. Cost of living is huge at the moment, which has to be a consideration. However, school trips are often much more cost efficient than individual families trying to offer similar experiences. It's a great option for parents to have. My folks never could have given me the chance to go on a ski trip, if it was not offered by the school.

The cost of all trips offered should be affordable for the majority of students, not for a select few who can afford them. Although I am in favour of trips abroad, the ones further afield are an unnecessarily expensive option. There are closer, less expensive options available.

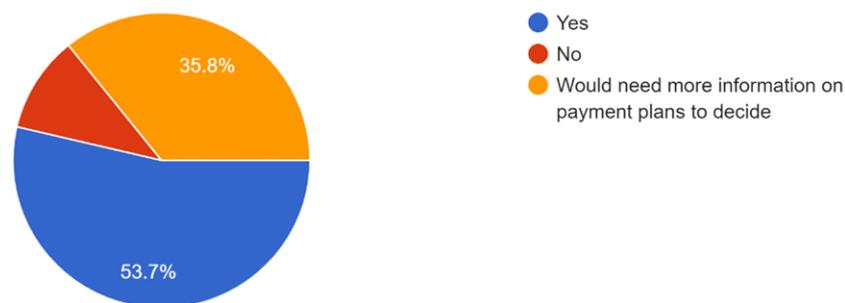
Whilst I believe these trips provide so much education and social benefits the Cost is obviously an issue for many families and that can be difficult when your child really wants to attend a trip with their peers. Some of the prices (although probably value for money) would be as much as a family holiday.

Providing a clear payment plan over a period of time can encourage pupils to be responsible for personal saving/part-time jobs. Encourage participants to be responsible citizens in school and thus can be entrusted to exercise this outwith the school context. Also, further benefits are fund-raising for charity whereby a post trip celebration is held in main hall for families so that they can experience what their child experienced by watching a DVD.

Thousands raised for charity.

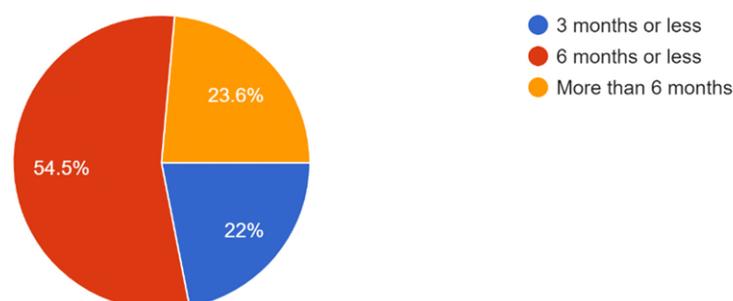
Do you think the prices quoted above are manageable for families if payment plans are provided?

123 responses



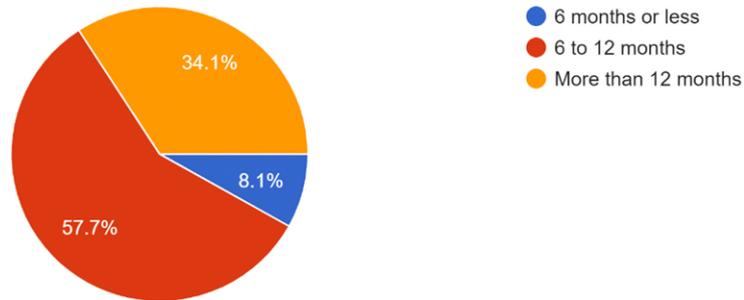
What do you think is a reasonable timescale to pay for a residential visit that costs £500 or less?

123 responses



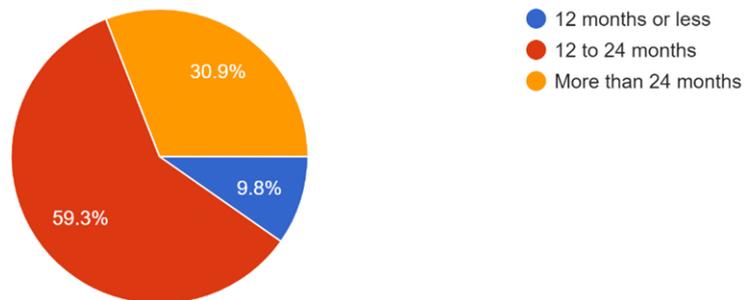
What do you think is a reasonable timescale to pay for a residential visit that costs £501 - £1500?

123 responses



What do you think is a reasonable timescale to pay for a residential visit that costs £1501 - £3000?

123 responses

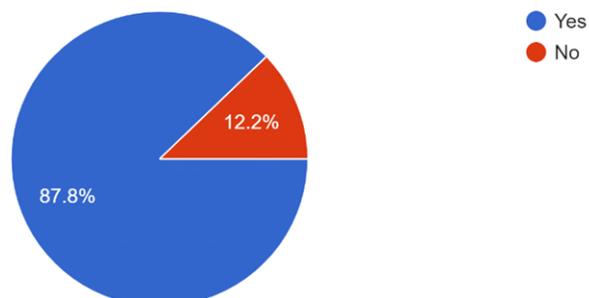


Core Provision and Extra-Curricular Provision

Schools in Scotland now have to provide all core curriculum provision free of charge to students. These educational visits would not be part of our core curriculum i.e. they would always happen outside of term time and it would be for individual families to decide if they wished to commit to them.

Do you agree that this is a fair approach for the school to take?

123 responses



If you have any other ideas about how the school can make this provision as fair as possible please let us know.

It would be great however if there was some form of residential educational visit, even in Scotland, that could become part of the curriculum allowing students an overnight or short trip to form some kind of skills. And also reintroducing day trips even locally to extend the curriculum in to the community. The current S4-6s have had none of these experiences in or out of the curriculum and it would be a shame for the current younger pupils to miss out on these opportunities to gain wider skill sets

Make the payment schedule as long as possible so that families can budget accordingly. Other schools have activities weeks that land in term time and parents pay for trips so don't see why Mackie can't?

Although expensive, I think the school should offer trips abroad. It gives the chance for a child to go overseas when the cost for a full family may be too great (this was my own experience in secondary). Payment plans, with plenty time to pay, seems sensible.

If a trip is going to be based on the curriculum then consideration should be taken to travelling during term time if it doesn't negatively impact other subjects. Also, travelling in term time could help to reduce overall costs.

Only have visits costing £500 or less, fundraise and do payments over a long period. The school is not a travel agency for well-off families.

Apply for funding from local groups eg lions to fund places

As stated, are there opportunities to pay for trips for under 16's using Childcare vouchers?

A grant for trips funded by local businesses if possible or perhaps charities who may be able to support vulnerable or disadvantaged children to allow them the opportunity to experience travel abroad.

Opportunities to fundraise/grants provided/support on funding applications for those less well off.

Have a broader range of experiences with a broader price range. Set up exchanges where families can put up students and vice versa.

Offer the opportunities and we will embrace them

There are many wonderful places within Europe that offer far more than USA if your going to have an expensive trip it should be where the culture is very different like Asia

How about a crowdfund option for parents who have the ability to offer a bit more to help Pat for those who are on (for example) free school meals?

Engage local companies to fund trips for families that cannot afford them

Although not part of core curriculum , there is educational value to be had and pupils should be able to take part during school term. There may be staffing implications but these could be managed during May or additional cost of supply teachers added to the trip .

Fundraising, bursaries, company sponsorship

A range of educational activities that more people can take part in during the same time frame at lower end of the price scale and fundraising by public to help cover costs

I don't see why for the younger ones trip can't be in Exam week so as to keep the school quiet for the older ones doing exams and for the older ones post exams at end of term. Parents would still happily pay. I work across 5 academies and know three of them take the students out during term time for their trips so don't understand why Mackie can't?

Make trips more modest and local, so that they are more accessible to all - particularly in this day and age when they are supposed to be learning to live a more sustainable life.

International trips, however glamorous and exciting, do not send the correct message.

Perhaps outreach trips, where young people can actively contribute to communities and/or

conservation efforts in Scotland and the wider UK would teach them more about the world, about building communities, fostering equality and creating a better society.

All efforts should be given to families on low income to be helped to pay for the trips, through fundraising or through charities or lottery funding

Trip run by schools should have an educational element and be accessible to ALL in the school. Expensive trips are not inclusive as many can't or don't want to afford them, choosing to spend that kind of money on a family activity rather than on one child.

It is a sad and unavoidable fact that some families will not be able to afford some of these more expensive trips. Payment plans are a good idea and trips should make conscious efforts to offer the best value for money that they possibly can. I think offering a variety of trip options is a good idea too, so that parents should have maximum scope to give their young people these experiences.

Why do trips have to be during holidays, it would be better to have options to do things during term time too.

Fundraising so that pupils can apply to go on trips if they are receiving benefits. Or have a fund where donations are specific to school trips.

Many children/teenagers have missed out on so many life and social experiences during the pandemic. Some were looking forward to coming up school activities and trips. Going forward, would it be possible to broaden the year groups attending these trips so that the pupils who have missed out, can be included in these extra curricular activities.

Fundraising events to help with costs. Should also be enough spaces in trips to allow all who would like to go to have the opportunity to do so.

Try and raise money to support funding students from low income families?