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**HITCHIN BOYS' SCHOOL**  
An Academy Trust

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TP/ajp

4 May 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians

### **Current Year 9 - 25/26 day Trip to Malaysia and Thailand - £2,975**

Following on from the recent successful trips to Malaysia since 2017 and the upcoming expedition in July next year, it is with great anticipation that Hitchin Boys' School is pleased to announce the proposal to take a group of pupils from current Year 9 on another expedition to Malaysia and Thailand in **July 2023**. This type of trip suits students who are adventurous, sociable and ready to embrace new cultural experiences.

The cost of the trip will be approximately £2,975 depending on flight price and currency fluctuations and any subsequent surcharges, as flights cannot be booked more than 12 months in advance. In an effort to reduce costs on this trip we are intending, as usual, to run this through Hitchin Boys' School and not through external travel operators.

This expedition is unique in that it is entirely student led from the planning and preparation, to fundraising, fitness training and itinerary planning. The boys will be supported during the expedition but will ultimately be responsible for the booking and planning of the majority of the trip and the running of the budget in the country. I have listed the majority of activities that will be major components of the trip. The aim of the trip is to improve their own organisational skills and develop independence hopefully not only providing the opportunity of a lifetime but a useful addition to any UCAS application.

The trip cost will include the following:



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Head Teacher: Mr F Moane

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- Flights to and from Thailand and an internal flight (A visa be required for Thailand), all accommodation, transport, food and Travel Insurance. This will include a range of hotels, chalets and hostels.
- A five day Open Water PADI qualification or Advanced Qualification on the Perhentian Islands. Here, the boys will also have the opportunity to snorkel with the reef sharks and are highly likely to see turtles laying eggs and/or turtle hatchlings being released. The boys will also be given talks on turtle conservation whilst they are based at the site.
- A day trip to see the major sights and temples in Bangkok
- Grade 2 and 3 White Water Rafting and additional sessions waterfall abseiling and tubing. Two hours of rapids followed by a prepared lunch with qualified instructors.

Other activities selected by students on previous trips and included in the price were:

Hindu Batu Caves Visit - with an opportunity to feed the monkeys that live within the cave

- Night Markets
- Dining at the Bug Cafe
- Sunway lagoon Water park
- Kuala Lumpur night market to have a go at bartering
- Bathing elephants at the elephant conservation centre in Kuala Gandah
- Eating outside at China Town, KL
- A visit to a Buddhist Temple
- A trek through Malaysian rainforest and to a waterfall
- Genting Skyworld Theme Park (Opening Autumn 2021)
- Kayaking
- Some leisure activities include bubble bump, virtual reality experience, karaoke, escape rooms and dining in the dark. (There are close to 30 different activities for the current Year 11 team)



If you would like your son to participate in the trip please complete and submit the form available on Edulink: <https://www.edulinkone.com> by **Friday 14 May 2021**. If you need a new password link please contact [edulinkhelp@hitchinboys.co.uk](mailto:edulinkhelp@hitchinboys.co.uk).

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Once places are confirmed I will write again with further information regarding the trip and provide you with the payment schedule. At which point a place will be reserved for your son on the trip and a non-refundable deposit of £150 will become due. Please be aware that if your son subsequently withdraws from this trip that some or all of the monies paid may be non-refundable depending on the payment schedule and terms issued to us by the providers.

If you have any queries regarding this trip please do not hesitate to contact me at the School or via email at [rthorp@hitchinboys.co.uk](mailto:rthorp@hitchinboys.co.uk)

Yours faithfully,

R Thorp  
Trip Leader