

Ghyllside Primary School

Gillinggate, Kendal,

Cumbria.

LA9 4JB

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Headteacher: Mr.H.B.Davies (BA. Hons)

Dear Parent/Carer,

8th October 2025

Y4 Residential Visit: Brathay/YHA Ambleside **Tuesday 21st April - Wednesday 22nd April 2026**

We are writing to inform you of a very exciting opportunity for our Year 4 children. We have made a booking for a one night, two day residential visit in April next year and we would like to make it possible for every child in Year 4 to participate. We have also secured a generous bursary from Brathay to reduce the cost of the visit quite significantly. We are grateful to the Trust for this bursary.

When:

Tuesday 21st April - Wednesday 22nd April 2026

Where and What:

Coach transport to Brathay Trust (Ambleside) for a full day of outdoor activities (ghyll scrambling and canoeing, subject to weather conditions). Overnight stay at Brathay. Lovely hill walk (led by our in house team of highly experienced and well qualified staff in school) over Loughrigg Fell with a picnic lunch (provided by Brathay), returning to school for approximately 3.15pm

Why:

Our Ghyllside children begin to explore the Lakeland hills in Y5 on the Derwentwater/Hawes End visit where they hopefully get a real taste for the fells and sign up for Expedition Club in Year 6. We want the children to begin to learn some of those hill skills (kit, navigation and moving over fell terrain) and begin a lifelong passion for this beautiful place we live as early as possible. We know that many of the children already enjoy the hills with you and we want to offer them the opportunity to share this with friends; hill walking, lake activities and outdoor adventures are always fun with your friends. It is also a fantastic opportunity to develop and cement friendships through shared experiences and build our strength as a team.

Cost

The cost of the visit will be £142.00 per child and includes:

- Full day of outdoor activities at Brathay Trust delivered by a team of their outdoor instructors (Tuesday 21st April)
- Evening meal, overnight stay, breakfast and Wednesday packed lunch at Brathay
- A fell wander over/around Loughrigg Fell (Wednesday 22nd April)

If you would like your child to go on the residential visit, please complete the permission slip below with a non-refundable deposit of £20.00 before Friday 28th November. When we have a definite number of children on this date, we will send out a more detailed itinerary, kit list etc. If insufficient funds come forward we will not be able to cover the cost of the trip. **Please note, once the deadline has passed, we will not be able to add any extra children to the trip. After paying the initial deposit you can choose to pay the remaining balance in as many instalments as you wish.**

Payments can be made online at Eduspot/School Money, alternatively, we accept debit card, cheque and cash at the School Office. Any cash/cheque payment must be in a sealed envelope marked with your child's name and 'Y4 Brathay Trip', cheques should be made payable to 'Ghyllside School'.

Our Mission: Ghyllside Primary School – Growing Hearts and Minds

Our Values: Inspiring Healthy Inclusive Nurturing Experiences

Please note the following dates:

- Non-refundable deposit of £20.00 to be paid by Friday 28th November 2025
- Remaining £122.00 to be paid by Friday 20th March 2026

If you hold a mountain leader or mountain guiding qualification that we don't already know about and that you are happy to share with us by accompanying hill days, please may we ask you to let us know. Ghyllside is completely unique for a school (primary or secondary) in the sheer number of staff with outdoors qualifications and who are so highly experienced in the mountain environment through climbing, leading, guiding, orienteering and fellrunning. However, we do also need a regular "supply" of parents with mountain leader/guide qualifications to assist us. You will appreciate that our ability to offer hill walking and navigation "in house" reduces the cost of this visit alone by half. So, please don't be shy come and join us and help to pass on your love of the wild places to our small people.

Many thanks for your continued support, providing our children with fantastic learning adventures.

The Year 4 Team

Please return to your child's class teacher by Friday 28th November 2025

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I would like my child _____ to go on the residential visit.

I have made payment of the £20.00 non-refundable deposit online ()

I enclose £20.00 non-refundable deposit cash/cheque ()

I confirm that I shall pay the balance of £122.00 by Friday 20th March 2026. I understand that the deposit cannot be refunded.

Signature of parent/carer _____ Date _____

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