



# Coláiste Chraobh Abhann

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**etb**  
Bord Oideachais agus Oiliúna  
Chill Dara agus Chill Mhantáin  
Kildare and Wicklow  
Education and Training Board

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2018

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s)

Further to the text you received on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March regarding the re-scheduled tour to Barcelona, I wish to confirm the travel dates and times provided by The School Tour Company.

The details of the trip are outlined below:

1. Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2018 - Depart Dublin 18.45, Arrive Barcelona 22.15
2. Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2018 - Depart Barcelona 23.00 Arrive Dublin 00.40

A new itinerary will be negotiated by the tour organiser, Mr Ryan, with the School Tour Company. As soon as this itinerary is available, Mr Ryan will provide each student with a copy to bring home to parents.

It is very fortunate that the group is travelling to Barcelona this academic year as the travel option above represents the only dates available due to the size of the travelling party. Initially, we were informed that the earliest availability for rescheduling would be September with the only other option being a part refund of less than 50% of the cost of the trip.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents for their understanding and patience while the above dates were being secured. The initial disappointment of students and parents was almost immediately replaced by overwhelming support for the school's efforts. There was a full appreciation of the difficulty involved in working with the tour company to find alternative flights, accommodation, transfers, bookings for events/activities, etc. for a group totalling 112 people. In this regard, I wish to thank all school staff involved in this process for their efforts and commitment to finding a solution in the 48 hours after the cancellation was notified to the school.

Furthermore, I wish to thank parents for their support in ensuring their children attended school on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Friday 23<sup>rd</sup>. The tour would not have been re-scheduled if the students had not been in attendance on these days as the loss of teaching and learning time for these days coupled with the days already lost to bad weather this academic year would have been too significant to ignore.

There is an additional cost of €2,040 (€20 per student) due to the School Tour Company for organising new travel insurance for the group. It is my intention to cover the cost of this from school funds instead of seeking it from parents.

Please do not hesitate to contact the tour organiser, Mr Ryan, if you have any additional queries or require clarification.

Yours sincerely

**Shane Eivers**  
Principal