Tick-borne Encephalitis (TBE)



Dear Parent/Guardian,

We have a duty or care to those young people in our charge and as such we are under obligation to make sure you are aware of the very small risk of your Son/Daughter contracting the above illness.

I have been in touch with a specialist in the field of medical vaccinations and she informed me that the

risk of getting bitten and contracting TBE in Jutland – the area of Denmark that we will be visiting, is so small that it is practically nil. That said, there is still a possibility. The vaccinations required are not available on the NHS so they would have to be paid for through your GP and as there is a course of injections so those people wishing to follow this route would have to visit their GP very soon so the vaccinations have time to act.

Infected Ticks are only endemic on the island of Bornholm off the coast of Denmark and only two cases of TBE have been identified in mainland Denmark, one in 2008 and the other in 2009 and therefore we as a group feel that a vaccination is down to personal preference. **We will not be having them.** I have visited Denmark on 7 occasions and have never been bitten by a tick. CDE has been going since 1978 and there have never been any incidents of TBE. Our risk assessment will state that everyone will be asked to take with them insect repellent (with DEET) and young people will be reminded to apply it while at camp. The Danish Leaders are aware and competent in dealing with this issue and the Scouts will be told to check for Tick’s every time they get changed. Can I please ask that you as Parents/Guardians stress the importance of these measures to your Child/ren. We cannot do anymore.

For more information on TBE and other travel related advice, please visit your GP or take a look at: -

[www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk](http://www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk)

If you wish to withdraw your child from the event due to this information, we will give a full refund as long as we are notified before the 10th April. After that time, we will incur large expenses due to airline tickets etc.

Thanks for your understanding.

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