



ST. AIDAN'S

CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

July 2017

Dear Parent / Guardian

Year 9 Trips – June 2018

As I am sure you now understand St Aidan's Church of England High School sees extra-curricular activities and residential trips as being of immense value to individual students within the particular year groups. Therefore, the school provides opportunities in each year for pupils to undertake different challenges / experiences that we hope will contribute to the all-round education of each child.

The plans for Year 9 are now underway and I write to give you details of the opportunities available so that you can indicate particular preferences. There are five different activities catering for different needs.

- A **performing arts trip to London** with a visit and workshop at Harrogate Theatre on the final day. Useful if you enjoy drama, music, dance
- A **trip to Valkenburg, Holland**, particularly appropriate for students who enjoy sport. The boys will play football and the girls will play hockey against local schools/clubs of a similar age
- A **trip to Amsterdam**, a new trip for next year for students giving them the opportunity to explore a new city and culture
- A **trip to Sorrento**, Italy for students who are interested in geography, particularly tectonic activity with the opportunity to hike up Mount Vesuvius
- A **trip to the Rhineland, Germany**, this is a beautiful part of the country and the group will enjoy many activities in the area. Useful if you enjoy languages and history.

As in previous years, some trips may be oversubscribed and therefore we ask you to return the form attached so that we can make appropriate arrangements. We will try our very best to accommodate everyone's first preference but we may need to prioritise some children with particular interests and career plans.

Headteacher: Mr J Wood

St. Aidan's Church of England High School, Oatlands Drive, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG2 8JR

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School trips including residential visits form an important part of the curriculum offered at St Aidan's. When accompanying children on a school trip, staff are acting in '*loco parentis*' just as they do in school. However, trips away from the normal school environment involve taking into account different routines and environments, which demand that pupils are able to show an increased level of responsibility and maturity.

In order to participate in any trip the school staff have to be confident that a pupil will be able to cope with the challenges that the trip presents.

The school will look at the behaviour, the attendance and the well-being of a pupil and decide whether they are able to cope with these demands *before* accepting the pupil onto any trip out of school. The decision to allow a child to participate will be taken between the Trip Leader, the Head of Year and Senior Staff. Once a pupil has been accepted onto a trip then, if in the time between gaining a place on the trip and the departure, staff have concerns again about the pupil's participation in the trip, the school reserves the right to withdraw the pupil's place.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Yours faithfully

Mr J Wood
Headteacher

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Dear Year 8 Parent

Educational Visits for Year 9, June 2018

As Mr Wood's letter explains, we are delighted to offer your son / daughter the opportunity to benefit from the immense value of the educational ventures that we offer. You will find attached a full information sheet to enable you to select the visit most suited to your son/daughter's interests. The trips are optional; a pupil does not have to go on a trip if they do not want to.

Please take note of the following information:

- Please rank the trips in order of preference using the form attached
- Please return the form even if you do not wish to go on a trip
- When a trip is oversubscribed, we put all the names in an envelope and they are pulled out by a senior member of staff
- If we have a waiting list for a trip and if/when a pupil pulls out, we put all the names in an envelope and pull out the successful pupil
- **Places are allocated in September** when we return to school and we have received all the forms. Deposits will be asked for by the end of September/beginning of October. The deposits will range from £100.00 for a UK-based trip to £150.00-£275.00 for a European trip.
- For those pupils who do not wish to go on a trip, they will be expected in school however they will enjoy a week of activities organised by different departments in and around school.

Any student opting for either the Rhine, Amsterdam, Sorrento or Valkenburg trip will require his/her own valid passport plus an EHIC Health Card (check expiry date). Please check these as soon as possible-both documents must be in date up to and including the date of return into the UK.

Please return the form via reception at St Aidan's by Friday 21 July 2017. If your son / daughter changes their mind during the summer holidays, then just let me know the first week back when we return in September.

Regards

Mrs T Collins
Trips Administrator

Direct Line: 01423 818527
email: t.collins@staidans.co.uk

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Year 9 Educational Visits, June 2018

Please return to main reception at St Aidan's by Friday 21 July 2017

Name of pupil Form

Signed Parent/Guardian Date

Please indicate your order of preference 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Performing Arts Trip, London

Rhine, Germany

Sorrento, Italy

Valkenburg, Holland

Amsterdam, Holland

I do not wish to take
part in a trip

Places are allocated in September 2017

Please choose carefully, especially your first and second choices

Thank you

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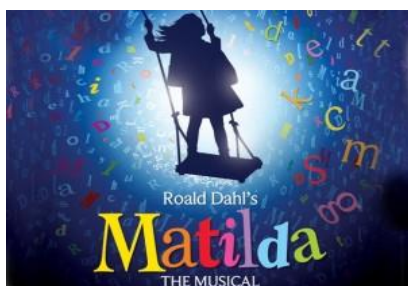
CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

ST AIDAN'S PERFORMING ARTS TRIP TO LONDON **11-13 June 2018 (London) 14-15 June 2018 (Workshops in School)**

The London Performing Arts Trip offers pupils the superb opportunity to immerse themselves in the very best that London and the West End have to offer. This exciting three full day-trip will include three award-winning shows, a visit to Drury Lane theatre and workshops run by professionals from the performing arts industry. This fantastic experience will be enjoyed by any pupil with a creative interest and should be a priority for those who are considering taking GCSE Music, Dance or Drama. We will spend the last two days in school doing performance workshops.

- Three full days and two nights' accommodation in Covent Garden. We depart at approximately 08:00 on the 11 June 2018 by coach returning at approximately 22:00 on the 13 June 2018
- Full Board
- 2 x dinner in London restaurants
- **3 London theatre shows**
- Guided tour of Drury Lane Theatre including backstage areas
- Practical workshops at Pineapple Studios with the cast from West End shows
- Coach travel to and from London and during visits

Theatre Shows (sample of possible shows available)



More activities will be added to the trip and we will finalise the details nearer to the departure date but the visit will offer a full and exciting itinerary.

The price for the trip will be approximately £450.00, however the final price will be confirmed in September when we know how many pupils would like to go.

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ST AIDAN'S VISIT TO VALKENBURG HOLLAND 10 – 15 June 2018

This is an exciting opportunity for both boys and girls with a particular interest in sport to combine three fixtures against local clubs combined with visits in the surrounding area. You will be based in Valkenburg situated in the province of Limburg, one of the most unusual parts of Holland – it has hills! Its inland position close to the borders of Germany, Belgium and Luxembourg, provides a great venue for your sports tour. With formidable local sports teams Valkenburg is an excellent destination. It is also a safe and cosmopolitan town with good recreational facilities. The pedestrianised centre enables pupils to explore safely.



The whole group



Girls Hockey teams



Borussia Monchengladbach

You will travel to and play local clubs rather than schools therefore timing will be late afternoon or evening and excursions are planned around this. Each day we will have practice sessions either on an open grass area or in a sports hall in the town.

Travel is by executive coach and Eurotunnel to Calais. We use two hotels in the heart of Valkenburg, one street away from the main attractions. Rooms sleep mainly 2, 3 to 4 with en-suite facilities on a full board basis. Excursions across the borders will make this a truly 'European' destination. Entrance fees to **all attractions** are included in the price.

We have included a day trip into Germany to visit its largest theme park, PhantasiaLand. Are you brave enough for the 'Black Mamba', an inverted roller coaster, so that riders' legs are dangling beneath them as they hurtle through ravines, plunge down chasms with barely time to scream as it loops-the loop, corkscrews, hairpin bends and stomach churning drops follow in quick succession?

Nearby is Maastricht, where many of the buildings have been conserved in the 17th Century period. We will also be visiting the bustling market for some personal shopping. An afternoon visit is planned to Mosaqua Water Park, a tropical theme pool with indoor wave pool, Supertube, rapids and a 92m long slide. Trips to Laserquest and Toboggan rides are also included together with a tour at the Borussia Monchengladbach stadium.

We have to be flexible about fitting in all of these visits, as the fixtures are not confirmed until a couple of weeks before our departure. **The approximate cost for this visit is £460.00 (to be confirmed in September) to include transport, full board, entry to all attractions and the fees for each of the fixtures..** Departure is around 06:00 on Sunday 10 June, returning to school at approximately 21:00 on Friday 15 June 2018. All the final details will be confirmed at a parents' meeting in May before the pupils depart.

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ST AIDAN'S TRIP TO SORRENTO

11– 15 June 2018 – Travel by Plane



Geography is the study of Earth's landscapes, peoples, places and environments. The Sorrento Trip provides an opportunity for students to see how tectonic activity has created a unique environment and how volcanic activity has impacted on people. It also provides the opportunity to look at how landscape and climate influences the way of life and economy of the area.

The scenery, weather and activities are fantastic but students must be prepared and willing to watch, listen and explore. This is a very busy trip with lots of activities and long days, and students will be expected to complete some work to enhance their experience.



We hope to include the following in the trip:

- A half day hike up to the crater of Mount Vesuvius and introduction to the area
- A session with a local ice cream maker lets students see how the famous Amalfi lemons are made into delicious ice cream. There will be other opportunities to sample traditional dishes and culture of the region
- A visit to a working farm to see how agriculture adapts to the climate and landscape of the area
- A tour of Herculaneum, a town that was completely buried by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79AD. A small part of it has been excavated to reveal buildings, statues and fantastic Roman mosaics and paintings.
- A half day visit to Pompeii provides another example of a preserved Roman settlement. The group will take a walking tour through the buildings of the old town with well-preserved examples of Roman buildings.

The trip will cost approximately £725.00, which will include full board accommodation, flights, and activities and return transport to the airport from St Aidan's, however the final price will be confirmed in September when we know how many pupils would like to go. All the final details will be confirmed at a parents' meeting in May before the pupils depart.

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ST AIDAN'S VISIT TO THE RHINE, GERMANY 11 – 15 June 2018

This is an exciting opportunity for Year 9 students to visit one of the most breathtakingly beautiful parts of Germany, to discover the cultural highlights of the region and for those learning German to improve their speaking skills.

This trip is open to **all** Year 9 students. Travel is by executive coach and ferry direct from St Aidan's to our hotel in the historic town of Boppard, situated on the banks of the Rhine for 4 nights. Accommodation is in a centrally located hotel with various room sizes for pupils, en-suite facilities and on a full-board basis.

Each day we will have time together as a group to discuss the learning opportunities for the day ahead before setting off on a coach outing to local places of interest. We will be visiting the picturesque towns of Boppard and Koblenz, both of which have lots of history and excellent shopping facilities!



A Rhine river cruise will reveal hidden castles and fairy-tale scenery. Two chair lift rides will ascend us into the heights of the German countryside with stunning views of the Rhine Valley and enchanted caves and towers to discover. A trip to the Bridge at Remagen offers an interesting insight into World War 2 and a visit to the Marksburg Castle sees pupils exploring castle life throughout the ages and the opportunity to experience the perils of a medieval torture chamber!! With additional mini-golf and swimming there will be plenty to keep us busy!



No school trip to the Rhineland would be complete without a day at Germany's largest theme park, PhantasiaLand, where students can enjoy the thrills of the roller coasters, white water log rides, amazing live shows and much more.



This is an all-inclusive trip with full board accommodation whilst in Germany, transport and entrance fees to all attractions are included in the price. The approximate price for the trip will be **£380.00, however the final price will be confirmed in September when we know how many pupils would like to go.** We will travel via Dover departing school around 06:00 on Monday 11 June and return on Friday 15 June arriving at school at approximately 21:30. You will be informed of all the final details at a parents' meeting in May before the pupils depart.

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ST AIDAN'S TOUR TO AMSTERDAM 11-15 June 2018

We are very excited to offer a brand new Year 9 trip to Amsterdam for students to enhance students' learning experiences within school. Amsterdam is the Netherlands' capital, known for its artistic heritage, elaborate canal system and narrow houses with gabled facades. Its Museum District houses the Van Gogh Museum, works by Rembrandt and Vermeer at the Rijksmuseum, and modern art at the Stedelijk.



The trip will depart on Monday 11 June and return on Friday 15 June 2018. Travel is by executive coach and Eurotunnel from Folkestone to our hotel in Amsterdam. Accommodation is in a centrally-located hotel with various room sizes for pupils, en-suite facilities and is on a full-board basis.

We hope to include the following (and more):

- Canal cruise - absorb the canal-front sights of Amsterdam on a leisurely sightseeing cruise
- Anne Frank House – visit the house where a Jewish girl had to hide during WW2 to escape the Nazis
- Visit to Rijksmuseum – dedicated to modern and contemporary art and design
- Full day in Efteling Theme Park – enjoy the thrills of the rides!
- Bicycle hire - fun and easy way to see the city like the locals do!



This is an all-inclusive trip with full-board accommodation, transport and entrance fees to all attractions are included in the price. The approximate price for the trip will be **£470.00, however the final price will be confirmed in September when we know how many pupils would like to go.** We will depart school around 06:00 on Monday 11 June and return on Friday 15 June arriving at school at approximately 21:30. You will be informed of all the final details at a parents' meeting in May before the pupils depart.

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