

September 2017

Dear Student and Parent

Year 12 Politics, Economics and History Trip, Monday 9 to Wednesday 11 July 2018

Following the success of previous trips, we are currently organising a visit to London for up to forty Year 12 students who are studying Politics, Economics and History. The focus of the visit will be a tour of the Houses of Parliament, hopefully to include a meeting with the local MP, two top West End Shows and a visit to the Imperial War Museum and Cabinet War Rooms or the Bank of England and a walking tour of Canary Wharf. Our aim is to increase the students' understanding about the workings and development of democracy in the UK.

The visit will include return coach travel from St Aidan's High School, two night's accommodation in central London (Covent Garden) on a bed and breakfast basis, two packed lunches, two evening meals and theatre tickets and a flight on the London Eye. Below is a provisional itinerary for the trip:

Monday 9 July 2018

Morning Depart St Aidan's main car park by executive coach travel to London

Afternoon Imperial War Museum OR Bank of England

Evening Dinner in London restaurant / theatre trip
Theatre trip

Tuesday 10 July 2018

Morning Houses of Parliament

Afternoon Cabinet War Rooms OR Walking Tour of Canary Wharf
London Eye

Evening Dinner in London restaurant theatre trip

Wednesday 11 July 2018

Morning Free time on Oxford Street

Afternoon Travel home to St Aidan's

I would like to take this opportunity to point out that the success of previous trips to London has been due in part to the excellent conduct of our students. Those who take part in this visit must recognise that this is a school trip and they must behave accordingly. Whilst the hotel we are staying in and restaurants we visit will sell alcohol, please note that Associated Sixth Form students will not be allowed to purchase or drink alcohol during the trip. I would ask parents to reinforce these points with their daughter/son.

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 wellbeing 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.

The cost of the trip for each student is **£360.00**. You should allow extra money for food and refreshments en route as stops will be made at service stations or alternatively you can provide your own snacks. Parents should be aware that students may have the opportunity to explore a carefully defined area of central London in small groups. They will of course know where to contact staff at all times.

The first deposit will be for £100.00. **Our preferred method of payment for this trip is via ParentPay.** Payments by cheque are still accepted and should be returned to the Finance Department at St Aidan's High School. **All deposits, together with the consent form, must be received by Friday 13 October 2017.**

A second payment of £130.00 will then be due by Friday 26 January 2018 with the final instalment of approximately £130.00 on Friday 2 March 2018. Further details will be sent out in due course. If you have any queries about this visit please contact us at school.

If you have any queries about this trip, require help with the payment or you have problems meeting the payment deadline, please do not hesitate to contact myself via reception or Mrs Collins, Trips Administrator on 01423 818527.

Regards

Mr R Illingworth
Economics & Business, St Aidan's High School

Mr M Melville
Deputy Head Sixth Form, St John Fisher's High School

**Year 12 Politics, Economics and History Visit to London
Monday 9 to Wednesday 11 July 2018**

I give consent for my daughter/son to take part in the above visit and enclose a **non-refundable cheque** for £100.00 made payable to St Aidan's School. I can confirm that I have made it clear to my son/daughter that the consumption of alcohol on this trip is strictly forbidden.

Please choose from the following options:

Monday (<u>please circle one</u>)	Imperial War Museum	OR	Bank of England
Tuesday (<u>please circle one</u>)	Cabinet War Rooms	OR	Walking Tour of Canary Wharf

Students' name Tutor Group

Parent / Guardian's signature Date

**Please send completed slip and cheque to the catering box at the Finance Department
by Friday 13 October 2017**