



ST. AIDAN'S

CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

October 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian

YEAR 10 TRIP TO COLOGNE LANGUAGE SCHOOL – 23-28 June 2019

Following the success of our previous visits to Germany, I am delighted to be able to offer your son/daughter the opportunity to study at a renowned German language school in June 2019. This trip is intended to offer extra assistance to those taking their GCSE exams in June 2020.

Over the past few years, we have visited and developed a close association with an excellent language academy in Cologne who are able to offer tailor-made courses for our students. The trip is always very popular and has proved to be a valuable and enjoyable experience for our students learning German. Classes will be taught by German native teachers and will run for 5 days with 4 hours' tuition per day.

The trip will be over 6 days in total from Sunday 23 June to Friday 28 June 2019 with flights from Leeds Bradford Airport to Düsseldorf and then the train to Cologne. Students will stay in a modern hostel meaning there is no return aspect of this trip i.e. you will **not** be expected to host a German student later in the year.

In addition to the time spent studying, there will be organised afternoon activities such as a tour of the city (including a 509 step ascent of the cathedral!), a film evening, several meals out, a visit to "Odysseum", Germany's premier science adventure museum, and a visit to the city Gestapo museum and the city zoo. There will also be ample shopping time available in the fully pedestrianised city centre.

The cost of this trip will depend on numbers participating. As flights have not yet been released we anticipate the final price will be in the range of £600.00-£660.00 to include flights, transfers, a week's travel card, accommodation, all meals, tuition fees, insurance, course materials and a graduation certificate! Please ensure your son / daughter has a valid passport and EHIC medical card.

Please note that this is an educational visit, taking place in school time. It is not a holiday. Students taking part are expected to complete the twenty hours of language tuition, to do all homework set and to fully participate in the cultural outings offered.

If you would like your son/daughter to go on the trip, please pay the **first non-refundable deposit of £200.00 by Monday 15 October 2018** on ParentPay. Please contact Mrs Holey in the Finance Office you do not have your log on details. Additional instalment payments will then be due in January 2019 and March 2019. An updated price schedule will be sent out once we know the final numbers of students attending and the cost of the flights.

Consent for the trip is required on ParentPay. Please note that by ticking the box online you are agreeing to your son/daughter taking part on the trip and the cost and confirming that their medical details, which we hold at school, are up to date.

Please note that all payments for this trip are non-refundable, as we have to book your son/daughter's flights and make regular payments to the Language School. I would be grateful therefore if you could discuss this

Headteacher: Mr J Wood

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opportunity with your son/daughter prior to paying the deposit to ensure that they are fully committed to the trip.

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 students 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 student will be able to cope with the challenges that the trip presents.

Once the deadline of Monday 15 October 2018 has passed, we will look at the behaviour, attendance and the wellbeing of each student and decide whether they are able to cope with these demands of the trip. The decision to allow the students to participate will be taken between the Trip Leader and Senior Staff. If we decide the trip is not suitable for your son or daughter, we will inform you in writing and deposits in this case will be refunded.

Once a student has been accepted onto a trip if, in the time between gaining a place on the trip and the departure, there are concerns again about the student's participation on the trip we **reserve the right to withdraw the student's place and any payments made may not be refunded**.

If you have any queries about the trip, or if meeting the initial deadline for payment presents a problem, please do not hesitate to contact myself or the Trips Administrator, Mrs Collins, on 01423 818527.

Regards

Mr Weare
Languages Department

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