

September 2018

Dear Student and Parent

Year 12 Politics, Economics and History Trip, Monday 8 to Wednesday 10 July 2019

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 is fully inclusive and 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
- packed lunches
- two evening meals in local restaurants
- theatre tickets for each evening
- flight on the London Eye.

Below is a provisional itinerary for the trip:

Monday 8 July 2019

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

Tuesday 9 July 2019

Morning Houses of Parliament
Afternoon Cabinet War Rooms OR Walking Tour of Canary Wharf
London Eye
Evening Dinner in London restaurant theatre trip

Wednesday 10 July 2019

Morning Free time on Oxford Street
Afternoon Travel home to St Aidan's

The cost of the trip is £390.00 and to secure a place for your son/daughter, we would require a non-refundable deposit of £130.00 by Friday 28 September 2018. Please note that **all payments for this trip are non-refundable**, as we have to make regular payments to the Tour Operator. I would be grateful therefore if you could discuss this opportunity with your son/daughter prior to paying the deposit to ensure that they are fully committed to the trip.

The trip should now be available on your ParentPay account and you will be able to give consent online and view the balance due. Further instalment payments of £130.00 will be due by Friday 25 January 2019 and Friday 1 March 2019.

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 The Associated Sixth Form. When accompanying students 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 students will be able to cope with the challenges that the trip presents.

Once the deadline of Friday 29 September 2018 has passed, we will look at the behaviour, attendance and the wellbeing of each student who has signed up and decide whether they are able to cope with the demands of the trip. The decision to allow the students to participate will be taken between the Trip Leader, Senior Tutor, 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.

Please note you will only be notified if your son/daughter is not accepted onto the trip.

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 pupil's participation on the trip, **the Head of Sixth Form reserves the right to withdraw the pupil'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 Mrs Collins, the 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