



ST. AIDAN'S

CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

October 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian

Year 10 Trip to Salamanca, Sunday 23 June – Friday 28 June 2019

Following the success of our previous visits to Spain, I am delighted to be able to offer your son/daughter the opportunity to study at a renowned Spanish Language School. Not only is this trip intended to offer extra assistance to those taking the GCSE exam in June 2020 but it also offers children the opportunity to experience Spanish culture at first hand.

Since 2000, we have developed a close association with an excellent language academy in Salamanca, called ISLA. During the week, students will have intensive classes taught by talented and inspiring native speakers whilst enjoying the hospitality of a typical Spanish host family. Classes will run for 4 days with up to 5 hours tuition per day.

The trip will be from **Sunday 23 June to Friday 28 June 2019**. Students will stay with Spanish host families in pairs or threes on a full board basis of breakfast, cooked lunch and evening meal. There is no return aspect of this trip i.e. you will not need to host a Spanish student later in the year. Travel will be by coach and plane.

The cost of this trip will depend on numbers participating. Given ongoing uncertainty around exchange rates, we anticipate the cost to be in the range £570.00 - £650.00 to include all flights, transfers, accommodation, food, tuition fees, course materials, activities and graduation certificate. Please note that this an educational visit taking place in school time - it is not a holiday.

Students taking part are expected to complete the 20 hours of language tuition, to do all homework set and to participate fully in the cultural outings offered.

In addition to the time spent studying, there will be organised activities such as a tour of the city, a 'salsa' dance class, 'chocolate con churros', swimming, a 'tapas' tour and a treasure hunt. Salamanca itself is a beautiful town famous for its ancient university, cathedral and stunning architecture. The central area is fully-pedestrianized and all accommodation is within 10-15 minutes' walking distance of ISLA and the town centre. Students will be allowed limited supervised free time for relaxation and shopping.

If you would like your son/daughter to go on the trip, please pay the **first non-refundable deposit of £200.00 by Friday 12 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. 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.

Headteacher: Mr J Wood

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

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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 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 Friday 12 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 Mrs Collins, the Trips Administrator on 01423 818527.

Regards

Mr M J Keating
Languages Department

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