

November 2019

Dear Student and Parent

Year 12 trip to London for Politics, Economics and History Trip, 8-9 July 2020

Following the success of previous trips, we are currently organising a visit to London for Year 12 students who are studying Politics, Economics and History. The focus of the visit will be a tour of the Houses of Parliament and a workshop, meeting with the local MP and a visit to the Imperial War Museum and Cabinet War Rooms together with a top West End show. 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 train travel from St Aidan's High School
- Visit to the Houses of Parliament
- Visit to Imperial War Museum
- Visit to Cabinet War Rooms
- One night accommodation in central London (Covent Garden) on a bed and breakfast basis
- packed lunches
- Two meals in local restaurants
- West End musical theatre ticket for Thursday evening

The cost of the trip is dependent on numbers however, we anticipate the price to be between £245.00 and £295.00 and this will be confirmed once we know the final numbers. If you would like your son/daughter to go on the trip, please pay the first non-refundable deposit of £100.00 on ParentPay by 09:00 on **Monday 2 December 2019***. Please contact Mrs Holey (h.holey@staidans.co.uk) in the Finance Office at St Aidan's if you do not have your log on details. Subsequent payments will be due in **January 2020** and **May 2020**. You will receive reminder letters or emails prior to the due dates.

The trip is limited to **20 students** and places will be allocated via ParentPay on a **first come-first served basis**. Please note that your payment may still be processed if the trip is full but in this case, we will refund your deposit and your child's name will go on the waiting list should a place become available.

***PLEASE NOTE THAT THE TRIP MAY FILL BEFORE THE DEADLINE FOR PAYMENT.**

Important Information

Please note that all payments for this trip are non-refundable, as we have to make regular payments to the Tour Operator.

Whilst we offer a payment schedule for the trip, please note that after Monday 2 December 2019, you will be required to **pay the full price of the trip if your son/daughter withdraws**, unless together we can find a replacement student. This is due to the cancellation charges imposed on us by the Tour Operator.

For that reason, we ask that you take the time to discuss the trip in detail with your son or daughter prior to paying the deposit to ensure that they are fully committed to the trip.

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.

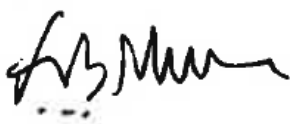
School trips including residential visits form an important part of the curriculum offered at the Associated Sixth Form. When accompanying children on a school trip, staff are acting *in loco parentis* just as they do in school. However, trips away from the normal school environment involve taking into 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 2 December 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, the Head of Year 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 pupil's participation on the trip, **the Head of the Associated 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



Dr F Murray
Head of Politics, St Aidan's High School



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