

September 2023

Dear Parent / Carer

Year 12 Visit to Cern – European Organisation for Nuclear Research – Geneva

We are delighted to be able to offer our Physics students the opportunity to take part in our highly successful trip to Geneva in July 2024 to visit CERN, the European Organisation for Nuclear Research.

At CERN, physicists and engineers are probing the fundamental structure of the universe. They use the world's largest and most complex scientific instruments to study the basic constituents of matter – the fundamental particles. Students will have a chance to tour the facility, as well as meet some of the professors working at the facility. We will also take in many sights in Geneva with the full itinerary to follow.

Organised by the well-established Tour Operator, Diverse School Travel, we are travelling on Thursday 18 July 2024 to Monday 22 July 2024. The price will include the following:

- Return coach travel and flights with EasyJet from Manchester/Liverpool Airport to Geneva
- Half board accommodation – five days (four nights) with evening meals at local restaurants on three of the four nights
- Full day in CERN plus lunch
- Guided tour of the Plasma Research Centre in Lausanne and coach transfer from Geneva
- Visit to the SIG Energy Pavilion & Verbois Dam
- Guided tour of United Palace of Nations
- Visit to the Red Cross and Red Crescent Museum
- Mont Salève Cable Car
- Guided tour and a visit to the Bureau de la Montagne du Salève
- Visit to the History of Science Museum
- Fondue evening and a Lake cruise on Lake Geneva
- Visit to the Jardin Botanique, Genève and a laser tag experience
- Comprehensive travel insurance

The trip is limited to 44 students across the Associated Sixth Form.

Cost

The cost of the trip is dependent on the number of students that attend; however, we anticipate the cost will be in the region of £1000.00-£1099.00

St Aidan's ParentPay / How to Reserve a Place

To give parents time to discuss the Cern trip with their child in conjunction with the other trip opportunities available in the Associated Sixth Form, the St Aidan's ParentPay will open at 13:00 on Monday 2 October 2023 and close at 16:00 on Friday 6 October 2023.

Please note the trip is **not** available on the St John Fisher's ParentPay. If you require an activation code for the St Aidan's ParentPay, please email parentpay@staidans.co.uk prior to Monday 2 October 2023. It is important to include your child's name in the email.

Following your discussions, if your child would like to apply for a place on the trip, please pay the first non-refundable deposit of £200.00 **by Friday 6 October 2023**.

Consent for the trip is required on ParentPay whilst making your deposit payment. Please note that by ticking the box online, you are agreeing for your child to take part on the trip, the cost, and confirming that their medical details which we hold at school are up to date.

Please note places on this trip are not allocated on a first come-first served basis; if the deposit payment is received by 16:00 on Friday 6 October 2023, all students will have an equal chance of being successful.

If the trip is oversubscribed, places will be allocated by members of the Senior Leadership Team using a random generator and parents will be advised on **Tuesday 10 October 2023** only if their child does not have a place. A waiting list will then be created for any student who is unsuccessful at this stage.

Instalment Payments

The final price of the trip will be confirmed in April 2024 when we have the final numbers of students attending and the associated costs of the trip. The payments are as follows:

Deposit payment	£200.00 by Friday 6 October 2023
2 nd payment	£300.00 by Friday 24 November 2023
3 rd payment	£300.00 by Friday 29 March 2024
Final payment	£299.00 approximately by Friday 26 April 2024

Reminder emails will be sent to parents before each deadline date together with any additional information that may be required for the trip.

Important Financial Information

Please note that payments made for this trip are non-refundable as we are bound by the booking conditions of our suppliers.

Whilst we offer instalment payments for the trip, please note that if your child withdraws after Friday 6 October 2023, you will be required to pay any cancellation charges unless a replacement student can be found. We therefore ask that you take the time to discuss this trip in detail with your child to make sure they are fully committed before you make any payment.

As financial pressures rise, we have been asked by some parents if they can support with the funding of trips for students who may not otherwise be able to afford to go. We do not currently have the means to facilitate this through ParentPay however, if you do wish to make a voluntary donation which will be put towards the cost of funding another student on the trip, please contact our Finance Manager via email at E.Amos@staidans.co.uk.

Passports

Students will need their own valid passport with at least 6 months remaining before the expiry date at the time of the trip together with an EHIC/GHIC card. Please note if your child does not hold a British passport, it is your responsibility to request the relevant visas to travel to Europe.

Behaviour

School residential trips form an important part of the curriculum offered at St Aidan's and when accompanying students on a school trip, staff are acting *in loco parentis* just as they do in school. Trips away from the normal school environment involve considering different routines and environments and students must be able to demonstrate an increased level of responsibility and maturity. To participate in any trip, the school staff must be confident that a pupil will be able to cope with the challenges that the trip presents.

Please note this trip operates a zero-tolerance approach to alcohol. We reserve the right to send home any student who we regard as having breached this rule which may require contacting parents to collect their child. The Headteacher would like to make clear that failure to observe this rule will potentially jeopardise a student's place in the Sixth Form.

Should you have any queries about the trip prior to paying the deposit or have concerns about making the deposit payment at this stage, please do not hesitate to contact either Mrs McDonald, the Trips Administrator, (t.mcdonald@staidans.uk) or myself (j.wilson@staidans.co.uk).

Regards

Mr J Wilson
Physics Department



ASSOCIATED SIXTH FORM

ST AIDAN'S & ST JOHN FISHER, HARROGATE

