

October 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Year 10 Visit to France Langue Language School, Nice – Monday 24 June to Saturday 29 June 2024

We are delighted to offer students studying French in Year 10 the opportunity to study at the renowned *France Language School* in Nice. Not only is this trip intended to offer extra assistance to those taking their French GCSE exam in June 2024, but it also offers students the opportunity to experience French culture firsthand in one of the best-known cities in France.

During the week, students will have intensive French classes taught by talented and inspiring native speakers whilst enjoying the hospitality of a typical French host family. Classes will run for 4 days with 3.5 hours tuition per day.

Depending on flight availability, the trip will be from Monday 26 June to Saturday 1 July 2023 with flights departing from Leeds Bradford Airport and returning to Manchester Airport. Return coach travel to and from each airport is also provided.

Students will stay with French host families in pairs on a full board basis of breakfast, packed lunch, and evening meal. There is no return aspect of this trip i.e., you will not need to host a French student later in the year. Students will be allowed limited free time for relaxation and shopping, and we are planning excursions to Monte Carlo, Antibes and the medieval town of Eze.

The trip is limited to 45 students.

Cost

The cost of this trip will depend on numbers participating. Given the current uncertainty around exchange rates, we anticipate the cost to be in the range of £900.00-£1100.00 to include all flights, transfers, accommodation, food, tuition fees, course materials, activities, and graduation certificate. Please note that if the overall cost proves to be less than the price range above, we will of course adjust your future instalments or refund if necessary.

ParentPay

To give parents time to discuss the Nice trip with their child, ParentPay will open at 09:00 on Wednesday 18 October 2023 and close at 11:00 on Wednesday 25 October 2023.

Following your discussions, if your child would like to apply for a place on the trip, please pay the first deposit of £250.00 by 11:00 on Wednesday 25 October 2023. Please note that if your child is successful in obtaining a place on the trip, this deposit is non-refundable.

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. If you do not have your ParentPay login details, please contact parentpay@staidans.co.uk





Instalment Payments

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

Deposit payment £250.00 by 11:00 on Wednesday 25 October 2023

2nd payment £250.00 by Friday 24 November 2023 3rd payment £200.00 by Friday 1 March 2024 4th payment £200.00 by Friday 29 March 2025

Final payment £200.00 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 11:00 on Wednesday 25 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

We would like to take this opportunity to point out that the success of previous trips to Nice has been due in part to the excellent conduct of our students. Those who take part in this visit must recognise that this is an educational visit and not a holiday. Students taking part are expected to complete the 20 hours of language tuition, do all the work set and to fully participate in the cultural outings offered.

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 considering different routines and environments, which demand that students can show an increased level of responsibility and maturity. To participate in any trip, the school staff must be confident that a student will be able to cope with the challenges that the trip presents.





Once the deadline of 11:00 on Wednesday 25 October 2023 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 child, 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.**

Insurance

We have a very comprehensive insurance policy, and all students are covered within this policy.

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 McDonald, t.mcdonald@staidans.co.uk.

Regards

Mrs A Forsyth Languages Department

