



ST. AIDAN'S

CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

October 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian

YEAR 10 TRIP TO COLOGNE LANGUAGE SCHOOL – Sunday 25 June to Friday 30 June 2023

Following the success of our previous visits to Germany, I am delighted to be able to offer your child the opportunity to study at a renowned German language school in Cologne in June 2023 who will offer a tailor-made course for our students. This popular trip is intended to offer extra assistance to those taking their GCSE exams in June 2024, proving to be a valuable and enjoyable experience for our students who are learning German. Classes will be taught by German native teachers and will run for 5 days with 4 hours' tuition per day.

The trip will be over 6 days in total from Sunday 25 June to Friday 30 June 2023 with flights from Manchester Airport to Düsseldorf Airport and then either the train or coach to Cologne. Students will stay in a modern hostel meaning there is no return aspect of this trip i.e. you will **not** be expected to host a German student later in the year.

In addition to the time spent studying, there will be organised afternoon activities. Examples of some of the activities are a tour of the city including a 509 step ascent of the cathedral) a film evening, several meals out, a visit to "Odysseum", Germany's premier science adventure museum, and a visit to the city Gestapo museum and the city zoo. There will also be ample shopping time available in the fully pedestrianised city centre.

The cost of this trip will depend on numbers participating. As flights have not yet been released, we anticipate the final price will be in the range of £800.00-£990.00 to include flights, transfers, a week's travel card, accommodation, all meals, tuition fees, insurance, course materials and a 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.**

Please ensure your child has a valid passport and a current GHIC or EHIC medical card.

If you would like your child to go on the trip, please pay the **first non-refundable deposit of £200.00 by Friday 4 November 2022** on ParentPay. Please contact Mrs Holey in the Finance Office if you do not have your log on details (h.holey@staidans.co.uk). Additional instalment payments will then be due in January 2023 and March 2023. An updated price schedule will be sent out once we know the final numbers of students attending and the cost of the flights.

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

Interim Headteacher: Mr D Thornton

St. Aidan's Church of England High School, Oatlands Drive, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG2 8JR
Tel: 01423 885814 • Email: admin@staidans.co.uk • www.staidans.co.uk



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Important Financial Information

Please note that all payments for this trip are non-refundable, as we must book your child's flights and make regular payments to the Language School. I would be grateful therefore if you could discuss this opportunity with your child prior to paying the deposit to ensure that they are fully committed to the trip. If your child withdraws from the trip, we are unable to refund unless together we can find another student to take their place.

Behaviour

We would like to take this opportunity to point out that the success of previous trips to Cologne 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 Friday 4 November 2022 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**.

Covid-19 and Insurance

As you will be aware St Aidan's takes the current Covid-19 pandemic very seriously and the safety and wellbeing of all our students and staff is always paramount. We have a very comprehensive insurance policy, and you can be reassured that you will receive a full refund if we must cancel the trip as a direct result of any future national lockdowns or Government advice against residential stays.

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 S Everson
Languages Department

Interim Headteacher: Mr D Thornton

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