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Letter No: 015/2024

10th September 2024

Dear Families,

Year 8 E Week Rhineland Trip 16th – 20th June 2025

This year the school's Enrichment Week for Year 8 focuses on Culture. The Modern Foreign Languages Faculty will be running their very popular and successful trip to the Rhineland in Germany and we have made a reservation for a five-day residential stay in Boppard for Year 8 students. The trip will form part of the school's Enrichment Week opportunities.

The cost of the trip includes travel by coach and ferry or the Euro tunnel, depending on availability, and four nights full board for students at the Hotel Rheinlust. The cost is **£585** and this is spread over 3 payments: a non-refundable deposit of **£145**, a first payment in **£220 by 31st January 2025** and a final payment of **£220 no later than 31st March 2025**.

This price also covers all travel, a cable lift, full day entrance to Phantasialand Theme Park and entrance to Cochem Castle and the Chocolate Museum in Cologne. We will spend time exploring the local sites giving students a chance to practise their German in real situations. We will also visit Cochem. On our return students will have the opportunity to do some shopping at Cite Europe in Calais, time permitting.

The cost of the trip includes a voluntary contribution towards activities and transport and a charge for board and lodging. If insufficient students are prepared to pay the voluntary contribution, then the trip may have to be cancelled for all students. If your child is in receipt of Free School Meals or Pupil Premium funding, financial support towards this trip is available. Please contact Gemma Lovett via admin@sandringham.aetrust.uk as soon as possible to discuss how school can support your child in accessing this opportunity.

This is a great opportunity for students to practise their German language skills but is open to all Year 8 students giving them the opportunity to learn about German culture and have a very enjoyable week.

Please note that as both the Normandy and Rhineland trips are being offered to all Year 8 students, it is important that you select one trip and make the deposit via ParentPay for that trip only.

If you would like your child to participate on this trip we require a non-refundable deposit of £145 via ParentPay by **27th September 2024**. If the trip is over-subscribed once this deadline has passed, places will be allocated by lottery. If your child is not successful in gaining a place your deposit will be refunded.

It is imperative that payment deadlines for this trip are strictly adhered to so that the necessary payments can be made to the tour operator. If payments are not received by the instalment dates we would have no choice but to remove your child from the trip and/or be liable for any additional charges we incur.

Please note that by accepting your child's place on this trip you are undertaking to make full payment by the given deadlines. Please also note that our tour operator, Select School Travel, does not differ from other tour companies with regard to cancellations and cancellation fees will apply.

The school will follow all advice given by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Department for Education and our tour operators when it comes to overseas travel for school trips. The tour operators we use provide both ABTA and ATOL protection as part of our tour packages. In the event that the FCO advises "against all travel" to an area or region, then these policies provide protection to prevent any loss in case of necessary cancellation. The school holds travel insurance through the Department for Education Risk Protection Arrangement (RPA) which provides cover in case of travel disruption, medical issues and other emergencies. This insurance does not cover any personal items including money, phones, gadgets and clothing in case of loss, damage or theft. Should you decide to remove your child from any trip where travel is still advised then this will not be covered by insurance, ABTA or ATOL.

For students who do not wish to take part in this visit, we will organise a UK based E Week for students that remain in the UK. Details of this will be confirmed once we know numbers.

As with all visits, it is important to stress that student participation on this trip is subject to their good conduct in school and if your child is removed from this trip due to their conduct, any monies paid to date will not be refunded.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me or email trips@sandringham.aetrust.uk

Yours sincerely,

Eileen Kincaid
Assistant Director of Learning: MFL

