



October 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 10 French Study Visit 2019

I am delighted to announce that we will be running our annual French language trip to Normandy, for Year 10 students, from Sunday 24 February to Friday 1 March 2019.

We have booked to stay at Chateau de la Baudonniere in South West Normandy, north of the city of Avranches. The Chateau is based in beautiful wooded grounds, near a small village called Les Chambres.

Chateau de la Baudonniere is a French language immersion school centre; all activities involve using practical spoken French to convey a meaning and students are encouraged to speak French at all times. A friendly, French, environment supports this philosophy with native French speaking staff.

The students will follow a full, year group specific, programme of trips and activities, on and off site. The time will be divided between French lessons, activities, excursions and fun French soirees. Students will also have support with their French during journal writing time in the evenings and at meals, where we will all eat in French style! All students who participate will undoubtedly have a great time in a fun, but educational, environment. Students' ability to speak French will improve substantially, and more importantly, they will have the confidence to use French and will understand the practical benefits of learning and using the language.

Dates and Travel Arrangements

The dates for the visit are Sunday 24 February to Friday 1 March 2019. The final travel arrangements are yet to be confirmed, but it is likely that we will travel via Brittany Ferries from Portsmouth to either Cherbourg or Caen.

Money Matters

The cost of the trip is estimated at between £520 to £540, dependent upon the number of students attending. The actual cost will be confirmed at a later date. The cost will include all food and drink whilst the students are at the centre, travel, trips/excursions and insurance. Please note that meals are not included for the journey to and from the Chateau. A non-refundable deposit of £100 is payable as soon as possible, and by Monday 5 November at the very latest. We cannot guarantee a place if your deposit is received after this date.

Further payments will be due as follows:

First instalment of £140 by Monday 3 December

Second instalment of £140 by Monday 7 January

Final instalment of between £140 and £160 by Friday 1 February

Please note that there are only forty places available; these places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis, upon receipt of the deposit. Once places have been confirmed the deposit and first instalment become non-refundable. If you withdraw from the trip at any stage for any reason not covered by an insurance claim, or if your child is withdrawn by the school due to serious behaviour issues, then cancellation charges will apply and you may be subject to an additional cancellation charge over the cost shown above. These cancellation terms are available to view on request.

Please note that the school's policy is that trips and other activities outside the normal teaching programme should be self-funding. Costs over and above the bed and board are contributions, however if these are insufficient the trip may be cancelled. No student will be denied participation in the trip because of difficulty in meeting the cost. In cases of genuine financial hardship, please contact Mrs Wilson in the Finance Office in confidence on receipt of this letter and by Friday 12 October at the latest.

Date for the Diary

An Information Evening for parents and students will take place on Monday 12 November in Room 108 in the MFL corridor. In the meantime, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me and I will be happy to help. You may also want to refer to the following website for further information about the visit: www.frenchschooltravel.com/the-centre.

Yours sincerely



Selma Manns
Head of Modern Foreign Languages

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Please complete and return this slip to the Finance Box outside the staffroom by Monday 5 November at the latest.

Student Name: _____ Form: _____

I give permission for my son/daughter to take part in the visit to Chateau de la Baudonniere.

(Please tick as appropriate)

- I have paid via WisePay (our preferred option) Ref Number: _____
- I enclose a cheque for £100 payable to Ashlyns School
- I would like my child to take part in the visit and will pay the deposit by Monday 5 November

I understand that the payment will be non-refundable and accept the cancellation terms explained above.

I confirm that my son/daughter has a valid passport and a European Health Card

Full name of student as it appears on passport: _____

Passport Number: _____ Nationality: _____

Passport Start Date: _____ Passport Expiry Date: _____

Passport Issuing Country: _____

Signed: _____ (Parent/Carer) Date: _____