



September 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 10 French Study Visit 2023

I am delighted to announce that we will be running a French language trip to Normandy, for Year 10 students studying GCSE French, from Monday 20 to Friday 24 February 2023.

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 Monday 20 to Friday 24 February 2023. 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.

Students will need to check that they have a valid passport with at least 3 months left on it in order to travel to Europe. You will also need to make sure that your child meets any medical entry restrictions of the country at the time. Some guidance on this can be found [here](#). A full risk assessment will be made for this trip.

Money Matters

The cost of the trip is estimated at between £550 to £575, depending 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 £150 is payable as soon as possible, and by Thursday 6 October at the very latest. We cannot guarantee a place if your deposit is received after this date. If paying by cheque, please complete and return the permission slip to the Finance Box outside the Staffroom.

Further payments will be due as follows:

First instalment of £200 by Thursday 10 November

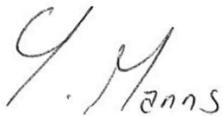
Final instalment of between £200 and £225 by Monday 16 January

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 Monday 3 October at the latest.

An Information Evening for parents and students will take place next term. 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 Thursday 6 October. Please note that if payment is made by ParentPay, a completed permission slip is not required.

Student Name: _____ Form: _____

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

I enclose a cheque for £150 payable to Ashlyns School

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

Signed: _____ (Parent/Carer) Date: _____