



Dear Parent/Carer

September 2022

Year 9 Trip to Ypres - June 2023

We are very aware that, due to the Covid pandemic, our current Year 9 students have not had any opportunity for a residential trip with their school friends.

As a school, Ashlyns understands the importance of an all-round experience for our students and a school trip is an excellent way to build self-confidence and self-belief, and to develop new friendships with peers. It is also invaluable to help broaden students' cultural capital and understanding of different countries. We want Ashlyns students to look back on their time at school with happy memories of their experiences.

Therefore, we would like to run a trip, as outlined below, for the current Year 9 students in 2023, at the end of Year 9. This would coincide with their studies of World War One in their Year 9 history lessons, and would also be enriching for English. Not only that, it would provide a unique insight into the students' own family history, as they can trace any ancestors who fought on the Western Front.

The trip would run twice, with half of the year group going from 4 to 6 June 2023, and the second half of the year going the following week, from 11 to 13 June 2023; both trips would have an itinerary similar to the one below:

Sunday	
AM	Depart by coach for Folkestone; cross into France with EuroTunnel Arrive in Calais
PM	Visit the Poperinge Death Cells Visit Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, Belgium
PM	Check into Ypres Lodge
PM	Attend the Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate

Monday	
AM	Langemark German Military Cemetery Visit, Ypres
PM	Tyne Cot Cemetery, Ypres Passchendaele Memorial Museum Entrance, Ypres
PM	Evening meal at the lodge

Tuesday	
AM	In Flanders, Museum Entry including Audio Guide Chocolaterie Leonardis
PM	Depart Calais on the Eurotunnel Arrive back at Ashlyns

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.

The provisional costs for this trip will be between £395 and £445 per person, but this may vary slightly at the time of booking, depending on numbers. There would be an initial deposit of £100 to be made payable by **Tuesday 11 October** to secure the booking, with further payments to be made as follows:

First instalment of £100 by Friday 18 November, at the latest

Second instalment of £100 by Friday 13 January, at the latest

Final instalment of between £95 and £145 by Friday 17 February, at the latest

As we need to confirm places immediately, no late payments can be accepted. If deposits are not received by 11 October, unfortunately we will be unable to include your child on the trip.

Once places have been confirmed, the deposit becomes 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. In cases of genuine financial hardship, please contact Mrs Wilson in the Finance Office by Monday 3 October at the latest.

We feel that this will be a really exciting opportunity for the students to see first hand the First World War battlefields and we are pleased to be able to secure this opportunity for the Year 9 students.

Please contact us if you have any queries regarding this trip.

Yours sincerely



Mrs S Gee
Head of Year 9

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Please complete and return this slip to the Finance Box outside the Staffroom by Tuesday 11 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 Ypres.

I enclose a cheque for £100 payable to Ashlyns School

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

Signed: _____ (Parent/Carer) Date: _____