



Dear Parent/Guardian

Year 8 French Trip to Normandy, July 2020

I write to inform you about the opportunity for your son to join us on the annual trip to northern France next summer term, which will be our fourteenth year!

The trip is open to all boys studying French in year 8. We stay in the region of La Manche in Normandy and do a variety of excursions to places of huge cultural and historical importance, as well as activities at the Château de la Baudonnière, an outdoor pursuits and cultural activities centre. At the château we take part in a variety of activities, including archery, aéroballe and orienteering, as well as bread making. The accommodation is at a hostel with comfortable dormitories, modern en suite bathroom facilities and the children eat excellent quality French meals. In the evening we also have a programme of outdoor games, quizzes, a dressing up evening and a talent show. We also visit local sights, including Mont St Michel with a walk across the bay, the Bayeux Tapestry and the Normandy landing beaches. All activities are led by qualified French instructors and are conducted in French. This kind of total immersion is such a fantastic way to make progress in the language and fully engage with French culture, and every year the boys have wonderful experiences and a lot of fun. If you would like to find out more please visit the château company's website: <http://www.the-chateau.com/French-language-immersion-school-centre/>.

This year the group will leave Lancaster on **Sunday 12th July** and return on **Friday 17th July 2020** (school closes for the summer break on Wednesday 15th). The cost will be **£490** per boy and this includes all travel, accommodation, insurance, excursions, meals and all equipment and teaching materials. The price does not include meals on the outward route but there will be a packed lunch provided on the return journey. Apart from this cost, pupils would require a little spending money for their own purchases and snacks during journeys and excursions.

If, after discussing this letter with your son, you would like him to take part in the trip, please carry out the following:

- respond to the Evolve system email by:
 - completing the consent, medical and passport information
 - sending a photocopy of your son's European Health Insurance Card to Louise Pearson in Lee House
- pay a holding deposit of £100 onto the Wisepay system

The deadline for returns is **Friday 6th December** and we will accept all applications for a place up to then, but we cannot offer places without the above having been completed. There is a maximum number of 67 places on the trip due to travel and accommodation constraints. Should there be more interest than places available then names will be selected from a hat from those with completed documentation and paid deposits. It may also be necessary to take into consideration a boy's behavioural record at the school before confirming a place. If we are unable to offer your son a place on the trip the £100 holding deposit will be returned to you and he will be put on a reserve list and offered a place should one come available. However, if you accept a place but pull out at a later date, refunds cannot be guaranteed. Should you require further information, do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Mr A M Hall

Head of French

*With the Brexit process still ongoing and the outcome and ramifications unclear, we do not know if the EHIC will still be valid next July. However, for the time being we would like details of those who have one so we can make informed decisions as and when the picture becomes clearer to ensure that we have appropriate medical cover.