

14/1/22

Dear Parents

**Berlin 2022, Friday 8 – Monday 11 April 2022**

Further to my earlier correspondence I am writing to advise you that the Computing Department are now planning to organise a residential trip to Berlin at the start of the Easter Holidays departing on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April and returning Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022. This visit will be invaluable to boys who are interested in German Culture, history and language or who are currently undertaking German as an option now or who may be thinking of taking German further in the future. The trip will include visits to important places of historical interest in Germany:

- Brandenburg Gate
- Memorial to the Sinti and Roma
- Stasi Prison/Hohenschonhausen Memoria
- Holocaust Memorial

The cost of the trip will be between £540 and £590. This will be confirmed once final numbers and flights are confirmed. There are a maximum of 35 places available so allocation will be on a first come first served basis. The costs include: transport, accommodation, meals and all activities on the trip. Students will only need money for meals en route, small souvenirs or snacks and the cost of public transport while in Berlin. As per school rules, alcohol consumption will not be permitted on this trip, regardless of your son's age.

The schedule of payments for this trip is as follows:

- 1st instalment of £200 due by **Monday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022**
- Final instalment to be confirmed due by **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

I appreciate this is a short turnaround. This was due to uncertainty relating to the pandemic.

If you wish your son to take part in the trip, please log onto ParentPay. If you feel that the cost involved is prohibitive, please do contact me in strictest confidence and I will see if there is any funding available to assist you. Please note, where the School is required to make non-refundable payments to the trip provider, we would not be able to make any refunds should you withdraw your son from the trip.

Please note the following current information regarding inoculations for Germany:

Travel advice for Germany can be found here - <https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/germany/entry-requirements> Travellers from the UK are classed as high risk and so need to be fully vaccinated and have proof of this. If over 16, you can use the COVID travel pass on the NHS app as proof, or, if under 16, you must request paper proof through 119. If you are not vaccinated, you are not allowed into Germany unless you are a German citizen. Please do not sign your son up for this trip if he is going to be in this situation. Your son will not be allowed to enter Germany and any funds you pay will be unrecoverable.

PLEASE ALSO BE AWARE THAT ALL PLANS MAY BE SUBJECT TO SHORT NOTICE CHANGES OR CANCELLATION DUE TO UPDATES IN COVID GUIDANCE OR ISOLATION PROCEDURES. In the event of any changes or cancellation the School to the best of our ability will look to recover any costs committed. Many companies now have COVID guarantees in place and the School has undertaken due diligence checks. However, this may still mean some or all of the funding is unrecoverable and parents/guardians understand this when signing students up.

Finally, there will be a Parents Information Evening later on this term to inform parents and boys of trip details. In the meantime, if you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me ([dmt@rgshw.com](mailto:dmt@rgshw.com)).

Yours sincerely

**Mr D Travi**

**Head of Computer Science**

**Trip Leader**