

24th May 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

Rhineland Trip – 24th - October 2019

I am aware that time goes quickly and the Rhineland visit draws ever nearer. I am sure that, as in previous years, the trip will be extremely successful and will, I hope, inspire your child with a love of the German language, the country and its people.

I am writing with some further information and some dates for your diary.

Payments

Please find below a reminder of the payment deadlines sent out in the original letter. You will see by now that you should have paid a total of **£350**. If you are not up-to-date with payments, please ensure this is sorted as soon as possible as we have payment deadlines to make with the company that is organising our visit.

- An initial non-returnable deposit of £80 *must be paid with the reply slip by Wednesday 14th November. (*N.B. This will be returned if your son/daughter is not offered a place on the visit).
- A second non-returnable payment of £90 by Monday 11th February 2019.
- A third non-returnable payment of £90 by Monday 8th April 2019.
- A fourth non-returnable payment of £90 by Monday 20th May 2019.
- A fifth non-returnable payment of £70 by Monday 8th July 2019.
- A final non-returnable payment of £60 by Monday 16th September 2019

Parents' Meeting – Tuesday 1st October 2019 at 5.30 pm.

During the meeting you will be able to meet the other members of staff accompanying the trip and I will go through the programme of visits. During the meeting, you will also be advised about matters such as pocket money, what to bring and telephoning. You will also be able to ask any questions you may have.

Passports/European Health Insurance Cards (EHIC)

As the students will be travelling to Germany on their own passports we need to know that the passports are valid for at least six months after the return date of travel. I would therefore ask you to confirm on the reply slip below that this is the case. If your child does not currently have a passport, please ensure you apply for one as soon as possible.

Travel insurance is included within the cost of the visit but currently it is possible and necessary for students to have an EHIC (European health Insurance Card). These can be obtained free of charge online or via the post office. Once again, it is important that this is in your possession as soon as possible. I am currently unable to get a definite answer as to whether these will be valid post Brexit, but I suggest that you obtain and/or ensure one will be valid for the dates of travel as soon as possible. In September I will be writing to you again and asking to see passports and EHICs so that we can take copies for our records.

Swimming

During the visit, we will be visiting a swimming pool one afternoon. The swimming pool is a leisure pool with slides and wave machine (Moselbad, Cochem)

Please complete the section in the reply slip below to give permission for your child to participate and to give us an idea of their swimming ability.

Free time

During the visit students will be offered the chance to have short amounts of free time where they can explore the destination, do some souvenir shopping, or complete a task. During this time, with parental permission, they will be allowed to go off in groups of a minimum 4 students in a clearly outlined area. They will be given instructions of what they are and are not allowed to do during that time and staff will remain within the area. Students will also be given a contact card containing information which will help them to contact staff in case of emergency. Please indicate on the attached reply slip your willingness for your child to participate.

Medical Forms

In order to ensure the travel company and hotel have the details in good time, please check and sign the attached medical and information form, ensuring any dietary requirements (including vegetarian/vegan as well as allergies) are completed and return it to me at school as soon as possible.

If your son/daughter has a medical condition/disability, please ensure that your child is not travelling on this school visit against doctor's advice.

I look forward to seeing you at the meeting on 1st October when I will be able to tell you about the many enjoyable activities planned for the Rhineland Trip in 2019. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs S.Bagshaw
Deputy Head of Centre MFL

Reply Slip & medical form – To be returned to Mrs Bagshaw in room L72 as soon as possible and no later than **Wednesday 5th June.**

Student's name **Tutor Group**

* Please tick the boxes below and/or delete as appropriate.

Section 1 – Passport

- *My child currently has a passport with the expiry date of _____
- *I have applied for a passport for my child and am waiting for it to arrive.
- *I have not yet applied for a (new) passport for my child but will do so before September.

Section 2 - EHIC

- *My child has an EHIC with the expiry date of _____
- *My child does not currently have an EHIC but I will apply for one before September.

Section 3 - Permissions

- *I give permission for my child to go swimming at the pool in Germany.
 - *My child can swim a length of a 25m swimming pool unaided.
 - *My child cannot swim a length of a 25m swimming pool unaided.
- *I give permission for my child to participate in the 'free time' and be remotely supervised for short periods of time in Germany.

Section 4 - Medical/Dietary/Contact information

- *I have checked the information on the attached form is correct and updated it as necessary, including the dietary requirements.
- I will keep school informed of any changes to these details as necessary, using the SIMS Parent Lite (details at <https://www.arnewood.hants.sch.uk/parents/sims-parent-lite>) or via contact with reception.
- *I would also like to give the following additional information, which may be relevant to the visit.

Signed: **Date:**
Parent/Carer