29 November 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

As I promised on the recent 6th form open evening I have finally got a quote for the USA trip for February 2024.

I am delighted to announce the details of our joint Year 12/13 educational school trip to **New York and Washington DC**. New York and Washington DC are both exciting destinations that will provide your child with inspiration and experiences that will stay with them for life. This trip will give your child an opportunity to learn outside of the classroom in both the city that never sleeps and the most powerful city in the world; whilst a constant emphasis on education and the curriculum will be maintained throughout the trip. There are logical links with the A Level Politics, Art, English and History courses, however we are offering the visit to any member of the current or new 6th form. Priority will be given to students of Politics, where paper 3 is focused on the US system.

If your child pays the deposit and then does not end up going into the 6th form and wishes to cancel, we will aim to return as many monies as possible, but we cannot guarantee a full refund.  
Proposed trip details

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| **Destination:** | New York and Washington (with Travelbound) |
| **Dates:** | 14th February to 20th February 2024 – 7 days (missing last 2.5 days of the school term and into the half term holiday) (2 nights DC and 3 nights NY and one night on the plane) |
| **Tour Cost:** | £1999 plus spending money for lunches and drinks that are not included. Exact price depends on the numbers going \* |
| **Tour Inclusions:** | Bed and Breakfast at recognised hotels in both cities TBC. 5 evening meals and breakfasts included. |
| **Proposed Excursions:** | White House visitor centre/Congress/Top of the Rock visiting , Staten Island outlets and ferry cruise, Hudson Yards, Broadway Show (TBC), 911 memorial museum, Central Park and all major historical sights in DC as well as shopping opportunities across both cities. The tour also includes a 2 hour stop in the historic city of Philadelphia. |
| **Supervision:** | There will be one adult chaperone for each group of ten students |

The aim of this trip is to allow students to gain first-hand experience of subject material that is relevant to their school studies in an exciting and new environment. It is also a highly beneficial opportunity to experience a new culture and build fantastic memories. If you have any queries as to the merit and benefits of this trip, or you would like to know more about the proposed excursions, then please do not hesitate to get in touch.

The cost is obviously substantial and regrettably much higher (20% higher) than this time last year due to the exchange rate and fuel crisis but does include a variety of exciting inclusions such as all of the usual New York and DC sights as well as a trip to the top of the Rockefeller Centre and a Broadway show. Unfortunately, if parents/carers are not able to contribute to the cost of the trip, it will not be viable. If more than 15 students sign up, the price could come down.

**What to do next**

If your child would like to participate in the trip, please pay an initial deposit of £200 by Parentpay by **Wednesday 4th January**. This will be followed by further monthly instalments (approx. £200 which will be collected over the following 9 months (a payment schedule and medical forms will be sent separately). Please be aware places will be given on a first come first serve basis.

Please note: Deposits, where charged, are non-refundable unless we have to cancel the trip. If a pupil is unable to take part in a trip after further monies have been paid, the school will endeavour to recoup costs on the pupil’s behalf. However, please note that in the majority of cases this is not possible, owing to group booking terms and conditions and cancellation fees.

Unfortunately, there is no financial support available as this trip is not a core part of the curriculum.

If you have any queries regarding any aspect of the trip, please contact me at the school.

Mr S King

Trip Leader