



VG06AT

September 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Year 10 History Battlefields' Trip – 5 to 8 March 2025

I am delighted to be able to offer your child/ward the opportunity to take part in the Year 10 History trip to the Battlefields of Northern France and Belgium next year. The tour, arranged through Manor Adventure, will take place during Spring term from Wednesday 5 to Saturday 8 March 2025. Departing West Kirby in the early hours of Wednesday morning, we will travel by coach to Chateau de Warsy in the Somme region of Northern France.

We will be staying for three nights on a full-board basis at the chateau. The tour will comprise of visits to Ypres, Belgium and the Somme region of Northern France providing an opportunity to visit the British Sector of the Western Front.

The cost of the trip is £518. This includes transport, insurance, full board whilst at the hotel and entrance fees to the various sites on the programme and a meal in Ypres before observing the Last Post at Menin Gate.

PROGRAMME

The provisional programme is as follows:

Wednesday 5 March 2025	Depart WKGS. Travel by coach to Dover. Dover to Calais ferry. Board coach and travel overland to the Chateau de Warsy in time for evening meal. Evening programme.
Thursday 6 March 2025	Breakfast, followed by visit to Ypres embarking by coach at approx. 9am. Visit in Flanders' Field Museum and guided tour of key sites of interest in the surrounding areas such as Essex Farm Cemetery and Langemark. Following an evening meal at a local restaurant in Ypres, attend the Menin Gate Ceremony and Last Post at 8pm. Return to Chateau de Warsy.
Friday 7 March 2025	Breakfast, followed by visit to Somme region including a visit to Musee Somme 1916 in Albert and demonstration of the equipment used and worn by WW1 soldiers. Lunch, etias followed by a coach tour around key sites along the Western Front including Thiepval and Lochnagar Crater. Evening meal at Chateau de Warsy followed by evening programme.
Saturday 8 March 2025	Breakfast followed by departure by coach to Etaples Military Cemetery. Depart to Calais early afternoon. Calais to Dover Ferry. Coach from Dover to West Kirby, arriving around 8pm.

INSURANCE

Students will be covered by the school's travel insurance policy. If your child/ward has a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) that will still be in date during the trip, they will be able to use this. If they do not, you will need to apply for Global Health Insurance Card on the NHS website. If you are reading the electronic version of this letter, you will find the address on the following link: [Applying for healthcare cover abroad \(GHIC and EHIC\) - NHS](#).

We have an extensive insurance policy but these cards allow for quick and easy access to healthcare in the unfortunate event it becomes necessary.

EUROPEAN VISA WAIVER (ETIAS)

The European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS) is a visa waiver system which will come into effect in 2025. All UK visitors to France and Belgium will, therefore, need to complete the ETIAS online application and obtain an approved ETIAS visa waiver before entering the country, unless they are travelling on a passport from a Schengen area country. Currently, no charge is made for minors applying for the ETIAS visa waiver. More details will be sent to parents once the system has been fully introduced. The visa waiver will be processed quickly online for most applicants, provided that they are travelling on a passport from an eligible country. Further information can be found at: [ETIAS Visa Waiver | European Travel Authorisation System](#). UK passport holders should not have spent more than 90 days in the previous 180 days in a Schengen area country.

PAYMENTS

Deposit

A deposit of **£150** is required by Manor Adventure and I would ask you to ensure that this is paid by **Friday 20 September** via Scopay. Your online payment serves as both consent and confirmation of updated emergency contact details. Contact details can be checked/updated via your Arbor app. Please ensure you provide any appropriate addition information directly to me (staff organising trip). Please note that numbers for this trip are limited to 40 students.

Payment of Balance

The final payment of **£368** must be received by **Friday 13 December 2024**.

Please also complete the attached slip giving passport information and return it to your child's/ward's History teacher once payment of the deposit has been made. Please ensure that the passport being used for travel is valid for at least 3 months after the day we leave France; it should therefore be valid until at least 8 June 2025.

Please be aware that withdrawing from the trip after a place is confirmed will mean that deposits cannot be returned, and further payments may need to be made. We do expect high demand for places so please adhere to the deadlines given. If the trip is oversubscribed names will be drawn at random.

Yours sincerely

V Gaskin

V Gaskin
Head of History & Politics

The school has a blanket School Journey Insurance policy in place to provide appropriate cancellation, curtailment, medical and personal possessions cover. This policy also carries very limited personal accident insurance cover for pupils. As the School will not be liable for any injury arising from incidents beyond our direct control, parents/carers may wish to consider purchasing their own personal accident cover to enhance the limited protection of this policy.

Passport Information Form – History Battlefields Trip – March 2025

Name (as it appears on passport)	
Date of Birth	
Country of Issue	
Nationality as listed on passport	
Date of issue	
Expiry date	

Please return form this to your child/wards History teacher once the deposit has been made.