

Lt11Bs

June 2019



West Kirby
Grammar School

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THEATRE VISIT TO NEW YORK GCSE Drama and A-level Theatre Studies - February 2020 www.wkgs.org

I am pleased to update you on the travel arrangements for our residential trip to New York 13th – 17th February 2020.

I can now confirm flight details as follows; Airline: **Virgin Atlantic**

Thursday 13 February 2020

Departure: Manchester Airport, 1pm

Arrives: New York Airport, 3.30pm

Sunday 16th February 2020

Departure: New York Airport, 6.55pm

Arrives: Manchester Airport, 6.20am Monday 17th February 2020

Please be aware of the following times for dropping off and collecting students. We will be collected by Carvers coaches at **9am** from West Kirby Grammar School on **Thursday 13th February**, arrangements have been made for coach transfers in New York. It is expected that we will return to WKGS at approx. **8am on Monday 17th February**.

I can also confirm that accommodation is booked at The Stewart Hotel, 371 7th Avenue www.stewarthotelnyc.com. This is centrally located and came highly recommended by our tour company, European Study Tours.

I am still waiting for shows to be announced so I will inform you of further details and our itinerary as they become available. In the meantime, please may I ask you to organise your daughter/ ward's ESTA application?

Passport holders from the UK or other eligible countries can travel to the USA under the Visa Waiver Program by obtaining an Electronic System for Travel Authorisation (ESTA). It is equivalent to a visa but no stamp or label will be placed in your passport. Once issued is it valid for 2 years or until your passport expires whichever is sooner and allows multiple visits to the US.

I need to supply the tour company with proof of ESTA approvals. I would kindly ask that you complete this process as soon as possible so that I can forward the details. You can screen shot (print screen in a word document) a copy of the ESTA approval, once it's complete and send it to jhalliday@wkgs.net. Alternatively, your daughter/ward can bring a printed-out copy to the Drama Studio Office. Here is a link to the official ESTA site: <https://uk.usembassy.gov/visas/visa-waiver-program/> it currently costs \$14, though this is subject to change. **I would be grateful if this could be completed before the summer break.**

It is still expected that the cost of the trip will be no more than £1500 per person. Please may I take this opportunity to remind you of the remaining deadlines for payment. Three remaining non-refundable payments of £300 are due: 4th July, 12th September and 17th October. All payments should be made directly to the Finance Office. It is possible to make over payments at any stage, however please note that it is vital that the deadlines are met in order for the booking to proceed. I have been advised that failure to meet payment deadlines could result in students losing their place.

Please could you also be aware that many students missed the previous deadlines for payments and passports, chasing this up took a great deal of time and delayed the booking process. I would really appreciate your support in meeting deadlines.

Yours sincerely,

L Taylor (Mrs)

Teacher of Drama and Theatre Studies