

Sponne School

A Music & Science Academy



Inspiring
Achievement

1st February 2019

Dear Parent / Carer

Re: Year 10 and 'A' Level German Visit: Tuesday 10th to Saturday 14th December 2019

We intend to take a group of Year 10 (current Year 9) and four 'A' Level students on a German residential visit. We will be travelling to Cologne/Bonn and will be staying in a Youth Hostel in the town

The aim of the visit is to give your child the opportunity of staying in Germany with the chance to experience the culture and language of a German speaking country.

We will be travelling by coach from Towcester, staying for 4 nights in a Youth Hostel in Cologne or Bonn. Whilst in Germany we will undertake a number of activities and visits, all of which are included in the trip price. The price will also include half-board so your child will only need to pay for snacks during the day. Whilst in Germany your child will have some unsupervised time to go shopping in shopping centres/areas.

We need to have a minimum of 40 students for travel by coach to be financially viable. If we do not get the required numbers, we will change the trip to Wednesday 11th to Saturday 14th travelling to Munich by aeroplane and staying in a youth hostel in the town. The activities and visits, board basis etc will remain the same.

The likely total price for this trip based on previous experience is £350 although we cannot give a definitive figure until we know the level of interest and therefore whether the group will be travelling by coach or by aeroplane. We will contact parents once we know the number of attendees to confirm the method of travel and to advise whether the cost has increased. Should the price increase and you wish to withdraw at this point, you will be given a refund.

If we do take a smaller number of students and fly to Germany, seats will be booked in your child's name as soon as flights become available so we can obtain the cheapest possible seats. Any student who decides to join the trip at a later date (April onwards) and therefore misses the initial booking for flights (should this be the method of transport) will be considered as a 'late attendee' and may be required to pay more for the trip in the likely event that flight prices increase. **This will only apply to students who do not express a wish to attend until April or later and also only applies if the group are flying. Any increased cost will be communicated to these parents only.**

Please be aware that if travel is by coach, there are 40 places available and if travel is by aeroplane, there will be a maximum of 30 places. As with all trips, making the first payment is confirmation that your child has a place on the trip. Once all places have been taken, the trip will no longer appear on TSCO for first payments, therefore early booking is recommended to avoid disappointment. Should the trip become full, you should contact CInvernizzi@sponne.org.uk if you wish your child to be placed on a waiting list.

Headteacher: Mr Iain Massey. MA, BA
Sponne School, Brackley Road, Towcester, Northants, NN12 6DJ
Telephone: 01327 350284
Part of Tove Learning Trust

Email: info@sponne.org.uk
Website: www.sponne.org.uk



Due to the complexities of using public transport whilst in Germany with a large group, behaviour needs to be exemplary and the school needs to be sure and confident that all participants will have the highest level of behaviour at all times and will respond appropriately to all staff instructions and guidance. Students will be informed if they have been offered a place on the visit after consultation with Ms Notley (Head of Year) and Senior Leadership team.

Your child will need his or her **own passport** as well as a valid EHIC (European Health Insurance Card).

If you wish to reserve a place for your child, can you please note the points below:

- We require the **first payment of £100.00 by Friday February 15th**

- Further payments will be required as follows:
 - **£75 by end of March**
 - **£75 by end of April**
 - **£75 by end of May**
 - **£75 by end of June**

If a place is booked for your child and they then withdraw, the travel cost will definitely be lost and depending on the date of withdrawal, other monies paid may also be lost.

Should concerns be raised by school staff regarding behaviour or attendance issues of students, the school reserves the right to withdraw places on the trip at any time. Should this become necessary no refunds of monies paid will be forthcoming.

The trip is now open and active on Tucasi Schools Cash Office for all eligible students. If you wish your son / daughter to go on this trip, you must give your consent by ticking the consent box on the TSCO payment page. Click on the name of the trip highlighted in green, enter the payment amount, tick the Permission Slip box, add to basket and proceed to payment. A non-refundable payment of **£100.00** will be required by **15th February** to confirm their place. Please be aware that if insufficient funds are received or if numbers of students are too low, it may be necessary to cancel the trip.

All payments should be made via Schools Cash Office. If you require any assistance, please contact Claire Invernizzi cinvernizzi@sponne.org.uk on 01327 350284.

As this is a curriculum related activity connected to their course, any student that is eligible for free school meals **may** also be eligible for financial assistance with this trip and should contact Anne-Louise James, Parent Support Advisor, on aljames@sponne.org.uk or on ext 237 at the school for further information

I hope I have covered the main details but if you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me at jgercs@sponne.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

John Geracs
MFL Learning Leader

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