



**Sponne School**  
A Music & Science Academy

# Dream Believe Achieve

23<sup>rd</sup> September 2024

Dear Parent / Carer

**Re: Saint Omer 2025, Year 9 French Language Trip to the Château d'Ebblinghem, Saint Omer, France:  
25<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

I am writing to the Parents/Guardians of all students who will be studying French in Year 9 to invite your child to participate in our annual trip to France in March 2025. This visit has been very successful in previous years and it offers a variety of activities that will help students learn more about the French way of life and enable them to put their language skills into practise in everyday situations.

We are planning a four day visit to the Château d'Ebblinghem near Saint Omer in Northern France from Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> to Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2025. This will involve three nights stay at the Château with day excursions and evening activities organised. Students will be accommodated in their own block within secure, private grounds of Le Château. The planned activities include exploring Le Touquet,(with a town trail) a tour of a chocolaterie and boulangerie, visiting Nausicaa Sea Life centre, a tour of the caves In Naours and a visit to the city of Amiens.

The expected cost of the trip is **£556** (providing all places are taken) including all transport via executive coach and standard ferry, full board accommodation, entrance fees and full insurance. There are **44 places** available and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

The trip is now open and active on TSCO Scopay for all eligible students. If you wish your son / daughter to go on this trip, click on the name of the trip, enter the payment amount, add to basket and proceed to payment. A voluntary contribution of **£150** will be required by **1<sup>st</sup> October** to confirm their place. Please note that making payment is also taken as granting consent to attend. 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.

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

We kindly request that by securing a place on this trip, parents/carers are in agreement to follow the Payment Plan detailed below. It is important that the Plan is adhered to as it enables School to be able to fulfil an arranged commitment with the tour operator to pay invoices in instalments. It is also designed to spread the cost for parents before the final date so that a large sum does not become due in one instalment.

Payment	Amount	Due Date
Initial Deposit	£150	From now until 1 <sup>st</sup> October
1st Instalment	£135	By 1 <sup>st</sup> November
2nd Instalment	£135	By 1 <sup>st</sup> December
Final Instalment	£136	By 1 <sup>st</sup> January

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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 Ana Lopes, Parent Support Advisor, at [alopes@sponne.org.uk](mailto:alopes@sponne.org.uk) for further information.

Please be advised that should a place be booked for your son/daughter and they later withdraw, we always endeavour to find a replacement student for the place. However if this is not possible, the tour operators terms and conditions state they will retain a minimum of the first deposit amount and up to 100% of the trip price depending on the date of withdrawal.

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 other than as per the tour operator's terms and conditions above.

All payments should be made via TSCO Scopay. If you require any assistance, please contact the Trip Administrator [trips@sponne.org.uk](mailto:trips@sponne.org.uk) or on 01327 350284.

This letter is now on the School Website, School Life, Parents, Letters Home, Year 9.

Yours faithfully,

**Mrs N Green**  
**French & German Teacher**  
**MFL KS3 Coordinator**

