

27 September 2024



Sawston
Village College

Principal: Mr J P Russell

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 11 Berlin Trip

The History Department is organising a visit for Year 11 historians to Berlin in Germany leaving from the College at 3.30 pm on **Thursday 13 February** and returning on **Tuesday 18 February** around 9.30 am.

We will travel by coach and ferry to Berlin to stay at the Pegasus Hostel in the centre of Berlin. The trip is an exciting opportunity for pupils to visit places studied on Paper 3 of their History GCSE course (Nazi Germany), as well as being a valuable cultural experience. The trip will include such visits as:

- the rebuilt Reichstag, home of the German Parliament (destroyed by fire in February 1933)
- Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp (one of the first built and used from 1933-45)
- the Holocaust Memorial that memorialises the death of 6 million Jews
- Otto Weidt's museum (where visually and hearing-impaired Jews were supported)
- the German Resistance Memorial (linked to Stauffenberg's bomb plot in July 1944)

The total cost will be **£490.00** and covers all public transport and coach hire, breakfasts, lunches evening meals, excursions and evening activities. The only additional costs will be for dinner on the coach leaving England, dinner on the return journey, and spending money whilst in Berlin. If your child secures a place on the trip, payment will be required as follows:

1. First instalment of £130 by Friday 25 October 2024
2. Second instalment of £180 by Friday 29 November 2024
3. Third instalment of £180 by Friday 31 January 2025

Please be aware that each payment must be received on wisePAY (no cheques or cash) by the College by the cut-off dates above. If payment is not received without a satisfactory explanation, your child will be removed from the trip and the place will be offered to pupils on the reserve list. Some financial support is available for pupils who qualify now, or have qualified in the past six years, for free school meals. Please contact Ms M Tuckwood, Pupil Premium Coordinator (pupilpremium@sawstonvc.org) for further details.

The application process

Based on our previous experience, the Berlin trip has traditionally been over-subscribed. We have taken the decision to take 90 pupils to Berlin this year, rather than 68 on the hope that we will be able to take everyone who applies. However, we will be unable to take any more, for safety reasons, as we have to use public transport in a capital city. Consequently, we do



ask that you do not assume that because you have applied, your child will get a place on the trip.

We respectfully also ask you to only sign up to the trip if you are committed to your child coming on the trip, so that we do not fill places that would otherwise be used by other pupils.

Please do ensure you are also happy to agree that your child will comply with the Code of Conduct for the trip: a copy of which can be found here.

The College does not operate a first-come-first-served policy for trips since some pupils might be absent from school when letters are first distributed. To be as fair as possible, we will randomly draw names out of a hat.

To apply for a place for your child, please complete this form by **Friday 4 October**. Replies received after Friday 4 October will not be considered.

If you have any questions, please contact me via the College reception or by sending a message to sjackson@sawstonvc.org.

Yours faithfully

S Jackson-Buckley

Ms S L Jackson-Buckley
Head of History

Sawston Village College – Terms and conditions for educational visits

- Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of all information provided but some details may be subject to change. Where this is the case, parents will be informed at the earliest possible opportunity.
- Payments become non-refundable once a pupil has secured a place on the visit and must be paid in full, no later than the deadlines as outlined in the launch letter or in any subsequent confirmation letter. The College can accept cash and cheques but its preferred method of payment is via parent pay.
- The College reserves the right to withdraw any pupil from the visit at any time.
- Parents are responsible for ensuring that all contact and medical details provided are correct and that the visit leader is alerted immediately to any changes in circumstance or any issues that may have a bearing on pupils' behaviour and/or well-being during the visit.
- School rules and expectations around standards of behaviour apply at all times during the visit. Where an exception is made, for example over the requirement to wear school uniform, this will be communicated in writing to parents.
- Visit leaders reserve the right to sanction pupils in line with school policy both during the visit and on their return to school.
- If the behaviour of a pupil is such that the visit leader deems it necessary to remove them from the visit, parents will be expected to help facilitate their removal and will be liable for any additional costs incurred in the process. For example, parents would be responsible for the additional cost of transport back to school.