



HARROGATE
GRAMMAR SCHOOL
EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

20 September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 8 Battlefields Trip – Thursday 16 to Sunday 19 May 2024

The History Department offers an exciting opportunity for Year 8 students to take part in a four-day visit to the First World War Western Front Battlefields in Belgium. This is a long-standing trip that is always very popular with the students, who gain the opportunity to appreciate the realities of the First World War first hand.

An example of the itinerary is shown below and this will be confirmed in due course:

Day One: Outward Travel

Leave HGS and travel to Hull 15.00

Check-in at ferry terminal 17.00

Overnight ferry to Rotterdam

Day Two: Ypres

Visits to: Sanctuary Wood and Hill 62; Caterpillar Crater; walking tour of Ypres

Travel to overnight accommodation in Ypres

Check-in followed by evening meal and Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate, Ypres

Day Three: Ypres

Depart after breakfast to visit: Essex Farm Cemetery; Langemark German Cemetery; Memorial Museum, Passchendaele; Passchendaele Ridge; Tyne Cot Cemetery

Travel to Rotterdam

Overnight ferry to Hull

Day Four: Return to School

Disembark in Hull 8.00am

Arrive back at HGS at approximately 10.00am

It is often possible for students to visit graves of relatives, who have memorials in these areas. Last year we were very fortunate to be able to visit several sites of great significance to the students. This was a very powerful experience.

Expression of Interest

If your child would like to take part in this trip, please complete an expression of interest form by clicking [here](#) by **9am on Friday 29 September 2023**.

In the event the trip is oversubscribed, students who missed out on the Year 7 French trip will be given priority and any remaining places will be allocated on a random basis. Parents/Carers will be notified if their child has secured a place by Friday 6 October 2023. If unsuccessful at this stage, your child will be added to a reserve list.

Students will require a current passport, in date until at least 20 August 2024, along with a GHIC (Global Health Insurance Card). If your child requires a GHIC, they can be obtained free of charge from the NHS Website by clicking [here](#). If your child does not hold a British passport, you will need to check if any other documentation is required.

Cost of the trip

The total cost for the trip will be £500, which includes return travel, insurance, accommodation, meals, all entry fees and an experienced tour guide.

We do understand that the cost may be prohibitive for some families and we would not wish to preclude any students from taking part on this basis. If you would like to discuss this further, please contact hgsfinance@hgs.rklt.co.uk

Payment Schedule

Once you have been notified that your child has secured a place on this trip, please **pay via Arbor**. A guide for this new payment system can be accessed [here](#).

- Initial non-refundable deposit of £50 due by Sunday 15 October 2023
- Second instalment of £150 due by Wednesday 31 January 2024
- Third instalment of £150 due by Thursday 29 February 2024
- Final instalment of £150 due by Sunday 31 March 2024

You may pay in smaller instalments or one lump sum through our new online payment system, however, please ensure that these are received in line with the set payment deadlines.

Next Steps

- Please complete the expression of interest form by clicking [here](#) by 9am on Friday 29 September.
- You will be contacted by Friday 6 October 2023 to confirm whether your child has been offered a place.
- If successful, please pay the £50 deposit by Sunday 15 October 2023, via Arbor, to secure your child's place.
- Ensure your contact details and your child's medical details are up to date, emailing any changes to HGSgateway@hgs.rklt.co.uk

We are very much looking forward to this trip.

Yours sincerely



Miss N Devey

Trip Leader