



Tuesday 2 December 2025

Dear Students, Parents/Carers,

Year 9 Language Trips

I have written this letter to provide you with information about the language trips which are available in Year 9. The reason we are doing this halfway through Year 8 is because the first trip happens at Christmas of Year 9 and the planning process for these trips begins 9-12 months in advance.

All the trips give students a fantastic opportunity to practise one of the languages they have been learning, and to experience something of the culture of each of the relevant countries:

- Boppard, Germany - Late Autumn Term, includes Christmas Markets - 50 students
- Loire Valley, France - Summer Term - 40 students
- Valencia, Spain - Summer Term - 40 students

Trip capacity is based primarily on availability of appropriate hotels and the size of groups for the activities possible in those areas.

This means that in total we can take roughly $\frac{2}{3}$ of the year group away on a trip. It also means that not everybody who wants to go will necessarily be able to do so. Some students will of course not want to go, but there will be some students who are unfortunately disappointed.

The costs of the 3 trips in 2025-26 are:

- France £810
- Germany £750
- Spain £700

Unfortunately, it is likely the costs will go up next year and we expect the trips for 2026-27 to cost in the region of **£800 - £1000**.

We would not want anyone to be unable to take part due to financial circumstances. Families are able to apply for financial assistance on an individual basis. When the individual trip letters come out, parents/carers will be able to register their interest on ParentMail and complete the confidential 'Request for Financial Assistance' form accessed via the [Trips and Visits](#) section of the website. Please do not do this until the request for a deposit comes out.

Place allocation

To make place allocation as fair as possible we will using the following system:

In February 2026 a letter will be sent out with an outline of each trip and an estimated cost. If you would like to apply for a trip you will be asked to make a single deposit of **£150** to show your commitment. You will also be asked to complete a Google Form telling us which trip would be your first choice. If you have a second choice (you can only apply for the 2 languages which your daughter takes) you will be able to state this here.

Once all deposits have been received, all names that have each trip as their first choice will be put in a hat for this trip. Names will then be selected randomly. Names will only be put into the hat for the trip which is their first choice.

Once this has been completed, if there are any spaces left on any of the trips, these will be offered to students who did not get a place on their first choice, and had this trip as their second choice. Again, if needed these will be drawn out of a hat.

Once the trips are full, we will then create waiting lists for each trip, putting on those who had it as their first choice but did not get a place on either their first or second trip.

Students will not be able to go on 2 trips, unless the second trip they want to go on is undersubscribed. If a second trip is offered, a second deposit will also need to be paid.

Yours sincerely

Mr E Baird

Head of MFL