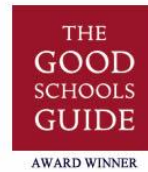




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November 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

Year 10 Spanish Exchange with the Escola Jesus, Maria i Josep, Barcelona

I am delighted to be writing to you about the possibility of a 2020 Spanish exchange with the Escola Jesus, Maria i Josep, Barcelona; this would be my fourth exchange with the school, the three previous exchanges were with my previous school in Oxted.

The nature and purpose of an exchange is to enable students to be completely assimilated into another culture and as such, 'exchangees' are to be treated as an additional member of the family for the week. That is to say that they should fit into your routine and rhythm of life. That notwithstanding, it is crucial that the Spanish students do not have to share a bed; sharing a bedroom with a member of the same sex and age is perfectly acceptable. Furthermore, this room cannot be one to which an adult has to have access, for example to get to the bathroom. These same rules apply when our students are in Spain.

Our itinerary will include several visits to the colourful city of Barcelona, including a trip to the Sagrada Familia, the Guell Park, Las Ramblas, the Picasso Museum, as well as time in the school to gain an insight into life in a Spanish school.

How the Exchange works

The Spanish students and the British students apply to go on the exchange.

They complete an information sheet stating their hobbies, interests, other friends on the exchange, animal allergies etc., and I work with the Spanish teachers to find the best match for each student.

The Spanish students come to the UK first, arriving on the afternoon of Monday 16th March 2020 and departing on Sunday 22nd March 2020.

Monday – the exchange student will arrive Monday afternoon and go home with their paired student.

Tuesday – the exchange student will spend Tuesday here at Sackville school.

Wednesday, Thursday and Friday – the exchange student will come into school in the morning with your child. On two of the days they will travel to London and on the third day will visit Brighton with their experienced Spanish teachers. A packed lunch will be required on these days and collection from the train station will be required at around 5.00pm.

The weekend - this will be time spent with the host family. There is no need to spend lots of money taking your student out on day trips etc. They will just want to do what you would normally do at the weekend and be part of your family.

You will be required to provide all meals for your student during their stay and take them to Gatwick Airport on the Sunday for their return journey home.



The return

We travel from Gatwick to Barcelona on the morning of Tuesday 2nd June 2020.

We would be met by our Barcelona students and teachers at the airport and taken to the school. We would spend the first day in school.

Wednesday - a walking tour of Barcelona Gothic quarter and Port area (British students together with teachers).

Thursday - a trip to see the Sagrada Familia, Barcelona's most famous landmark with a guided tour and a trip to see Park Guell.

Friday - both British and Spanish students travel together to Sitgues by train where we will spend the day on the beach playing beach games.

Saturday - will be spent with the host families before returning home on the Saturday evening flight.

Host families will take your child to the airport for the return trip home.

All meals will be provided by the Spanish host families during your child's stay.

If you are interested in your child gaining a place on the exchange, you are agreeing to host a Spanish student for the week they are in England. There will be a full programme of activities arranged for the students during the school week so you will only need to entertain them independently at the weekend. You would also need to agree to a DBS check.

You are invited to make a voluntary contribution of approximately £300.00, (depending on the cost of flights). This price will include all visits in Spain, return flights and insurance. I must, however, tell you that as the school could not bear the cost of this trip, the visit will not take place unless parents, who are able to, are willing to contribute.

Students will need a valid passport with 6 months to go after June 2020 in their own name and their own medical card EHIC in order to travel. Should the use of EHIC cards change in light of Brexit we will inform you of any amendments that may affect our travels.

If you are interested in finding out more about the exchange I will be holding an information evening on Monday 18th November 2019, in room P12, from 5.00pm to 6.00pm. All you need to do is complete the attached reply slip, indicating your interest and return to me here at the school.

If you decide you would like your child to participate in the Exchange a deposit of £150.00 will need to be made via the school online payment system. The balance will then be paid by instalments. The payment system will open from Tuesday 19th November 2019, following the parent meeting being held on Monday 18th November 2019.

If the trip is oversubscribed there will be a ballot.

Please remember that if your child is eligible for the Pupil Premium government grant we can use that to pay for some of the cost of the year 10 Spanish exchange trip. Should you wish us to do so please liaise with Mrs Hannah Nibloe directly h nibloe@sackvilleschool.org.uk.

In the unlikely event that a student has to be removed from the trip due to poor behaviour, we reserve the right not to refund the voluntary contribution/cost associated with this trip. Insurance for all school trips is arranged through West Sussex County Council. Full details of the policy can be found on our website at <https://sackville.w-sussex.sch.uk/parents/school-trip-insurance/>. **Peanuts or peanut related products are not allowed to be taken on any school trip.**

I cannot overstate the value of participating in an exchange programme. Students benefit from the opportunity to hone their linguistic skills through total immersion in Spanish, they gain a first-hand appreciation of Spanish culture and the Spanish way of life. Past experience has shown that students may well establish friendships that will endure for years to come!

I envisage that there will only be 18 places this year and that demand is likely to be very high.

Priority will be given to those students who have an excellent ATL in Spanish.

Should you require any further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me direct at sroberts@sackvilleschool.org.uk.

Yours sincerely
pp



Mrs S Roberts
Modern Foreign Languages

To: Mrs S Roberts - Modern Foreign Languages

Information Evening - Year 10 Exchange with the Escola Jesus, Maria i Josep, Barcelona

I would like to attend the information evening you are holding on Monday 18th November 2019 between 5.00pm and 6.00pm.

Name of student _____ Form _____

Parent/Carer name (please sign) _____

Parent/Carer Signature (please print) _____

Date _____