

30<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Dear Parents/Carers of Year 9 Students

### Spanish Trip

Due to the success of the trip last year, I am proposing to take a group of students in year 9 and year 8 to San Lorenzo del Escorial, Madrid to enhance their learning of the Spanish language. The visit will take place between 4<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> July 2019. We will be taking part in a summer exchange organised by the County Government of Madrid. During the visit students will take part in different activities together with Spanish students from many regions of Spain, so our students will have the opportunity to listen to different Spanish accents.

We will stay at a youth hostel, our students will share rooms with other English students. Please be assured that we follow the advice and guidance of educational school trip experts at Cambridgeshire County Council, as well as conducting a range of risk assessments and safety checks, and also working closely with our partners in Spain.

The trip will be unique as we will be visiting San Lorenzo del Escorial, a town in the mountains near Madrid, where there is a monastery holding the remains of the Spanish Kings since the XVI century. If you are interested the link is <https://el-escorial.com/>. The final programme is still being planned, but we expect to undertake a range of cultural and linguistic activities during our stay, including:

1. Visit to Madrid (Real Madrid stadium tour is included)
2. Working on a collaborative project with partners on the topic of multilingualism/bilingualism
3. Visiting local monuments, as it is a very historical area in Madrid
4. Tour around the town of San Lorenzo del Escorial and the surrounding area, including excursion to the high ropes park, natural swimming pool in a river, and walking along a Roman path
5. Visit to local sports facilities, e.g. indoor climbing center, swimming pool
6. Have many different fun activities, in which your son/daughter will have to use the language, including geolocation competitions, video reports, adventure activities, etc.

The trip will begin on the morning of Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July. We will travel by coach to Stansted airport and then by plane to Madrid. We will return to college on the evening of Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July. Once we have purchased the flights we will update the times. Included in the cost of this trip is the transport, accommodation, entrance to museums and sites, insurance and meals (except for the ones at the airports). The first included meal will be the breakfast on the morning of 5<sup>th</sup> July and the last will be the lunch on 10<sup>th</sup> July.

The total cost of the trip is £770. Within this cost, we have had to build in an additional amount as a contingency post-Brexit. We will have a clearer picture after March 2019, and will make any necessary adjustments at that point. In cases of financial hardship, any requests for the contribution to be waived will be treated sympathetically; please contact the Principal in writing. If you qualify for Pupil Premium Grant support, are still in receipt of free school meals and would like to apply to access some of this funding towards this trip, then please tick the relevant box on the reply slip. This will be evaluated on a case by case basis.

If you would like your child to be considered for a place on this trip, you need to complete and return the permission slip to the Finance Office with a non-refundable deposit of £170 by Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November. We would prefer this to be paid online as not only is it the most secure method of payment, it also saves on the cost of administration. Please speak with the Finance Office if you need a reminder how to use the online payment system. Students will be informed in college that their place has been secured. Six more payments of £100 will be due monthly from 5<sup>th</sup> December 2018 until 5<sup>th</sup> May 2019. These are also non-refundable. The balance of £770 will be due by Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2019. Please make a note of payment deadlines to aid with the planning of the trip. Your child will need their own passport to travel and a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC).

Please note that places will be allocated on a first come first served basis and that we are expecting to have a waiting list, due to the popularity of the trip last year. If you would like to speak with me, please contact me at college by email [EGarciaPerez@elycollege.co.uk](mailto:EGarciaPerez@elycollege.co.uk) There will be a parents' meeting in November with information about the trip, and a further meeting 3 or 4 weeks before the trip to finalise plans. You will be notified of the date in due course.

Yours faithfully



Dr Garcia Perez  
Trip Leader



**To: Finance Office – Spanish trip 2019 – Dr Garcia**

Student's Name ..... Form ..... Gender .....

- I give permission for my child to take part in the Spanish trip 2019
- I have paid £170 online (preferred method of payment)
- I enclose a cheque for £170 made payable to Ely College
- I understand that this deposit is non-refundable
- My child is eligible for pupil premium grant support, and is still in receipt of free school meals, and I would like to apply to access some of this funding towards this trip
- I give permission for photographs of my child to be used in college publicity (including the website)

Signed (Parent/Carer) ..... Date .....

**Please complete the following:**

Surname (as on passport)	
First name (as on passport)	
Date of birth	
Nationality	
Age on date of travel	
Address	
Contact telephone number(s)	
Special diet (eg vegetarian)	
Allergies	
Medical condition(s) Please detail	
Any other information that you feel we should be aware of	
I give my permission for to my son/daughter to take part in the educational activities in Spain in accordance with the arrangements that have been outlined. In the event of the above named student needing urgent medical attention, I consent to one of the Trip Leaders acting on my behalf to give permission for urgent medical treatment, including anesthetic if required.	<b>Please sign in this box</b>