

19/03/2024

Dear Parent/Guardian,

### PSYCHOLOGY , ART and RS TOUR TO USA

15/02/2025 (Sat) - 21/02/2025 (Fri)

We are delighted to offer your child the opportunity to take part in a trip to New York and Washington next academic year. This trip is principally designed to expand your son's knowledge and understanding of many topics associated with Psychology, ART and RS; however, it is open to all students, who will be in years 10-13 in September 2024, who are interested in exploring these subjects. Alongside this it also gives your child the great opportunity to visit two of the most cosmopolitan and vibrant cities in the world - the Big Apple and the centre of US democracy. For those taking GCSE ART or RS or A levels in Psychology, Philosophy and/or ART, you'll get to see the development of Civil Rights, prejudice and multiculturalism, whilst also seeing the impact of media on influencing people's minds, attitudes and behaviours. All of this will help to expand your view of your subject and develop key understanding of it within a real-life setting. This letter is intended to simply introduce you to the trip and to gauge interest in this opportunity. As such, a more detailed letter will be published once we have confirmed that we have enough interest to run the trip.

The provisional cost of the trip is £2450 - £2900. This figure depends on numbers (20 students) taking part. It includes:

- Airport Transfer in New York
- Airport Transfer in Washington
- Train Transfer to Washington
- Visit to Art & Design live! Student conference
- Evening meals
- 4 Hour Guided Walking Tour of Washington Political Sites
- Harlem Civil Rights Guided Walking Tour
- External Viewing of Washington Monument
- Meeting with a Veteran of the Civil Rights Movement (1.5 hours)
- Visit to Library of Congress
- Visit to Museum of Modern Art
- Broadway Theatre Performance (show TBA)
- Ferry to Liberty and Ellis Island
  
- Visit to Top of the Rock
- 9/11 Memorial Visit
- Visit to 9/11 Memorial Museum
- Visit to Jewish Museum

The cost of the trip is based on an expected travel party of 20 students and 3-staff. This will give the trip an excellent staff to student ratio of 1:10. A parents' meeting will be arranged during the summer term for those students who sign up for the trip, in order to give out more detailed information.

In addition to the tour cost, we would recommend that your son has **£200** spending money for the trip - which would pay for lunchtime meals, a Metro travel card (bought in New York and Washington) and souvenirs. They would also be required to have a current passport, which has at least 6 months left on its expiry date and have completed their **ESTA application**. ESTAs are travel visas for the United States which all visitors are required to have in order to enter the country. ESTAs are available on the ESTA website, but details will be sent out nearer to the time. Currently, ESTAs are priced at \$21, which is roughly £17.

To secure a place for your son on this trip, please log on to Parent Pay and pay the deposit of £125.00 by 19<sup>th</sup> April 2024. This will be non-refundable once the trip has been confirmed with the provider. Further expected payments will be approximately £340 on a monthly basis, before the final payment deadline early November 2024. A letter with a more detailed breakdown of payments will be sent out once the trip, and therefore the cost, has been confirmed.

The trip is being booked through NST Travel, the UK's leading educational travel company for schools with more than 45 years' experience. They work closely with us during the whole tour planning process to ensure that your child will get the very best learning experience whilst away.

If you or your son has any questions about the trip do get in contact with Mrs Watson ([jmw@rgshw.com](mailto:jmw@rgshw.com)) Mrs Francis ([gcf@rgshw.com](mailto:gcf@rgshw.com)) or Mr Webb ([jxw@rgshw.com](mailto:jxw@rgshw.com)).

Kind regards,

Mrs Watson, Mrs Francis and Mr Webb

Trip Leaders (Psychology/Art/RS)