

18 November 2024

Dear Parent / Carer,

### **Year 12 & 13 English Literature Trip to Strawberry Hill House, Twickenham – Friday 13th December**

The English Department has organised a study day at Strawberry Hill House in Twickenham. This will be invaluable to Year 12 and 13 English Literature students as they prepare to study, or begin revising Gothic literature as part of their A level course. Strawberry Hill House is a mock-gothic mansion designed by the 18th century writer Horace Walpole, whose work was highly influential in the development of early Gothic literature in English. The study day will consist of a guided tour of the house followed by a bespoke lecture on Gothic literature by a specialist from St Mary's University.

We will be travelling by minibus from School at 10.30am and expect to return by 3.30pm. The total cost of the trip is £29. We recommend that your son brings a packed lunch on the day as well as a small amount of money to spend in the gift shop/café. Boys may dress casually but smartly. Hoodies and ripped jeans, for example, are not appropriate for this trip.

Within the terms of the School's policy on charging, I am writing to ask for your agreement to your son making the visit and to ask for a voluntary contribution of £29 for the trip so that we can cover the costs incurred. No pupil will be prevented from taking part in the visit on the grounds that parents cannot or will not make such a contribution, but if insufficient funding is available, the visit may be cancelled. If you feel that the cost involved is prohibitive, please do contact me in strictest confidence and I will see if there is any funding available to assist you. Please note that where the School is required to make non-refundable payments to the trip provider, we would not be able to make any refunds should you withdraw your son from the trip.

**If you wish your son to attend the trip, please log onto ParentPay, look up "Year 12 & 13 trip to Strawberry Hill House" and pay the full amount of £29 by Friday 29th November.** If you are unable to pay online, please contact the Finance Office to pay by an alternative method.

As you are aware, you and your son have completed and signed the 'RGS Lifetime Behaviour and Medical Consent form' for RGS day trips. However, please understand that it is a parental responsibility to inform Matron ([matron@rgshw.com](mailto:matron@rgshw.com)) of any changes to the medical condition of your son.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Eleanor Bradley  
Assistant Subject Leader  
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