

Monday 19th September 2016

Dear Parents, Carers, Boys & Girls

«Name» «Surname»
«Form»

YEAR 7 RESIDENTIAL VISIT TO CHÂTEAU DE LA BAUDONNIÈRE – NORMANDY 2017
Harrold Priory, Lincroft & Margaret Beaufort Schools

We are planning our annual residential visit to the Château de la Baudonnière in Normandy open to all Year 7 students in the Sharnbrook Academy Federation. This action packed trip is an excellent opportunity for the students from across the three middle schools to get to know each other, take part in some fantastic activities and improve their French.

We will be staying at the Château de la Baudonnière, in the La Manche region in Normandy from the **2nd – 8th April 2017** (before the Easter holiday). Last year over 120 students went and had a brilliant time and the Château more than lived up to our highest expectations.

During the week, students take part in a wide variety of activities including canoeing, climbing, archery, fencing and bread-making using French to help them along. All of the activities are led by experienced French instructors who teach students the necessary language involved and make each activity excellent fun as well as educational.

The day excursions planned this year are to go to a French market and to visit Mont St Michel where the students will have a chance to practice their skills and do a spot of shopping and sightseeing. In addition, the students visit one of the beautiful Normandy beaches where they have a chance to relax or to play with friends for the evening.

Every year, our students tell us that the trip is the experience of a lifetime. We see the children come away with greater confidence and improved spoken ability and understanding in French. This trip also gives our students the chance to have a go at new challenges and to make new friends from other schools - this has had a really positive effect on their learning in lessons.

For more information on the activities offered by this trip, I would also invite you to visit the Château's website on www.the-chateau.com.



PAYMENT DETAILS

The total cost for this trip will be £520. We have an option for 150 places across the three schools and we fully expect all places to be taken up. We know there will be a high demand with each middle school having a proportion of places allocated according to the size of the Year group. In our opinion, this represents good value for money, as this covers all meals at the château, all of the excellent activities, entrance costs and travel costs. Pocket money and meals en-route are not included.

We would like to invite you to return the reply slip and a deposit of £240 to secure a place for your child on this trip by **Monday 17th October 2016**. The deposit is non-refundable unless we are unable to offer your child a place. Once places are allocated there will be 2 further instalments of £140 which are due by **Wednesday 30th November 2016** and **Tuesday 31st January 2016**. If full payment is not received by **Tuesday 31st January 2016** the place will be forfeited and any payments made to date may not be refunded.

Once your child is allocated a place they will be issued with a confirmation letter. Payment can be made in instalments (as per dates in letter) using our secure internet payment system. If you would like to make a payment online please contact Mrs Boddington for your online access code. Alternatively, you can pay by cheque (made payable to Lincroft School), by credit/debit card over the phone or cash. Should we be over-subscribed, places will be drawn by lot.



OUR EXPECTATIONS

In line with our code of behaviour, we expect all our students to behave as our 'ambassadors' when on visits. We, therefore, reserve the right to refuse a place, or withdraw the offer of a place, should we have concerns about a child's ability to cope with the very high expectations for attitude and behaviour.

We do not operate on a first-come-first-serve basis for residential visits because we appreciate that parents need time to consider the benefits of a stay away from home. Should we be oversubscribed, places will be drawn by lot (and any deposits returned).

All students must have their own full UK passport or a full national passport with the right to travel to France from the UK. Please inform Mrs Boddington, the educational visits administrator, if your child holds a non-EU passport as it could mean they require a visa. Each student will also require a valid European Health Insurance Card.

We will write to you with more precise details and the itinerary once numbers have been confirmed. Please return the reply slip to your school. Please do not hesitate to contact your School (see below) should you require further information at this stage.

All paperwork should be returned to your child's middle school. If you have any enquiries please contact your school or the administrator by email

Harrold Priory Tel: 01234 720346

Lincroft Tel: 01234 822147

Margaret Beaufort Tel: 01234 708213

SAF Trip Administrator - Mrs N Boddington Tel: 01234 822147

(nboddington@lincroft.beds.sch.uk)

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,



Miss C Stanton
Assistant Headteacher, Lead Languages, Lincroft School.

To: Mrs White (via white post box) - Please return by Monday 17th October 2016

**YEAR 7 RESIDENTIAL VISIT TO CHÂTEAU DE LA BAUDONNIÈRE – NORMANDY 2017
Harrold Priory, Lincroft & Margaret Beaufort Schools**

Name: «Name» «Surname»

Form: «Form»

School: Harrold

I/we would like you to reserve a place for my/our child on the visit to Normandy and will make payment using the secure internet payment systems. Alternatively, you can pay by cheque made payable to 'Lincroft School' or cash.

I/we understand that the holding deposit of £240 is non-returnable unless the school is unable to offer a place on the visit because it is over-subscribed.

I/ we agree to pay 2 further instalments (a total payment of £520, including the deposit by Tuesday 31st January 2017).

I/we accept that the school also reserves the right to withdraw the place offered should my/ our child fail to fulfill the school's expectations for selection for the visit. In these circumstances, the deposit will be forfeited unless the school is able to re-allocate to a student on the waiting list.

Signed (Parent/ Carer) _____ Date _____

