

Friday 10 May

Dear Parent / Carer

Year 10 - Göttingen Exchange 2019/20

Next school year your child will have the opportunity to take part in the Gloucester-Göttingen Exchange, a very successful joint exchange with Denmark Road High School, which is celebrating its 41st year! Our partner school in Göttingen is the Otto-Hahn Grammar School and its pupils, their families and the staff are always extremely welcoming and friendly.

A typical programme in Germany may include:

- **a day in a German school;**
- **a town trail in Göttingen and a guided tour of the city;**
- **a trip to the Harz mountains, visiting the “Grenzland” Museum, where you can experience what it was like to have the wall dividing Germany and maybe enjoy an ice-cream in one of the picturesque villages in the mountains;**
- **a trip to Berlin in a high speed train, with a guided walking tour to discover the city centre’s many sights, including a visit to the “Reichstag” (the German parliament building) and free shopping time in the centre of town,**

And, when the German party visits Gloucester, we will organise a joint adventure trip for all pupils involved in the exchange, with various team building activities.

The trip is a wonderful opportunity for pupils to practise their German and to experience the country, culture and cuisine at first hand. Friendships made on this exchange often last well into adult life. However, participation in the exchange is not guaranteed. We are required to vet pupils and their home circumstances as suitable for the exchange programme. Other issues which must be taken into consideration include the number of applications from the Exchange School, the willingness of pupils and families to accept an exchange partner of the opposite sex if necessary, the availability of a separate room for the guest, and compatibility issues. In the case of oversubscription from suitable applicants, selection will be on a “names out of the hat” basis. If a place becomes available at a later date, a further name will be selected from the hat. Names of pupils who are unsuccessful in securing a place will be given priority on a future visit.

The dates for next year’s exchange are as follows:

The German pupils will be in Gloucester from 6-13 November 2019 and we will be travelling to Göttingen from 22-29 June 2020. (These dates are subject to flight availability and might move by one day or two.)

In order for the trip to take place, it must be self-financing, and so we invite you to make a contribution of **£390* to cover the costs of flights, transfers, all trips and entrance fees.** If your son is in receipt

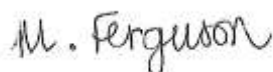
of the Pupil Premium grant, the cost of this trip is covered. Do please still complete and return any consent forms to School.

If you would like to apply for your son to take part in next year's exchange, I would be grateful if you could return the **attached expression of interest form** to the Finance Office** by **Friday, 24th May**, at the latest. **Please DO NOT send any payment yet.** I will be able to give you further details once demand is established and places allocated. Your son will also need a passport and (currently) an EHIC card both with six month's validity after 29 June 2020.

Once your son's place on this trip has been confirmed, I will write again with further details of our itinerary, the schedule of payments and a medical consent form for completion.

There will of course be a detailed meeting nearer the time to give you a better idea of what the exchange entails. Should you have any questions in the meantime, you can always contact me via email at mvf@strs.org.uk

Yours faithfully



Mrs Ferguson, Teacher of German
MVF@strs.org.uk

**Parents on low incomes and in receipt of certain benefits (see School's Charging and Remission Policy) may contact the School for support in meeting the cost. If parents are unable to make the contribution their child will not necessarily be excluded from the visit but it may be cancelled if there are insufficient voluntary contributions.*

*** open to students at break times and lunch time only.*



Sir Thomas Rich's School: Expression of interest - Off-site Visits

The information being collected on this form is important to ensure that appropriate care and support is available for your child on school visits. We handle all data you provide to us in line with Data Protection Legislation and our own Data Protection Policy.

Description and date of visit:

Göttingen Exchange – 2019/20 (planned dates) The German pupils will be in Gloucester from 6 -13 November 2019 and we will be travelling to Göttingen from 22-29 June 2020

Name of student: _____ Form: _____

☐ I wish my child to be considered for a place on the **German Exchange 2019-20**

Signature of Parent: _____ Date: _____

IF YOU WISH TO WITHDRAW YOUR CONSENT, PLEASE CONTACT trips@strs.org.uk.

Thank you.