

23rd May 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian

Re: Year 9 German Exchange Visit to Speyer 2016/17

The Modern Languages Department would like to offer students currently in Year 8 the opportunity to practise the German they have learnt on an Exchange visit. This seven day visit will enable them to experience life in a German family. We have a long standing link with the Hans-Purmann-Gymnasium (a grammar school) in Speyer and exchange visits have been very successful for a number of years.

Students will stay with host families and will meet with the accompanying staff each week day to ensure that there are no problems. They will visit a variety of places in the area, such as Heidelberg and its castle, a baroque palace in Mannheim, and will also spend time in Speyer itself. They will also spend time in the German school, allowing students to directly compare British and German education systems. Arrangements are made for them to meet socially in the afternoons or evenings. A similar programme will be arranged for the Germans when they visit students here.

The dates of the exchange are as follows:

Beaumont to Germany from WEDNESDAY 9th NOVEMBER TO TUESDAY 15th NOVEMBER 2016 inclusive

German students to England from THURSDAY 30th MARCH TO THURSDAY 6th APRIL 2017 inclusive

Travel will be by coach/minibus to Heathrow and by air to Frankfurt, from where the party will travel by coach to Speyer.

The cost of the exchange will be between **£425 and £470 depending on numbers and final flight prices**. Unfortunately, we are unable to meet these costs from our own funds, and the visit will only be able to go ahead if parents are prepared to make a voluntary contribution of the relevant amount to school funds. It is entirely up to you whether you wish to contribute. However, if all parents are not prepared to make this contribution, then the Exchange may not be able to take place for any of the students. Initially a non-refundable deposit of £100 will be required. If you are entitled to financial support please contact the school in confidence before applying for the trip.

Students will need their own passports and an EHIC card which should both be valid for travel in November.

I should be grateful if you would complete the attached reply slip and return it with **the initial deposit of £100 by Wednesday 8th June**. Cheques should be made payable to Beaumont School. You can send your money or cheque in a sealed envelope with your son/daughter's name, form and title of the trip clearly written on it. This should be posted in the appropriate box outside the Finance Office. Alternatively you can make payment over the internet. Our online payment system can be accessed via the School Portal on the front page of the Beaumont School website or at www.scopay.com/beaumont. (NB: You must still return the attached reply slip to school in order to secure a place for your child). **A second payment of £150 is due by Monday 11th July 2015 and the balance by Monday 12th September 2015.**

I cannot state enough the value of a person to person exchange visit. Whilst it should not be viewed as a holiday, it should nevertheless be an enjoyable learning experience. It really does enable pupils to experience at first hand life, school, the customs and practices of the host country. It enables them to absorb the language and to practise with sympathetic native speakers. Students will be required to produce a small record of their visit. I would also like to draw your attention to the school Trips and Visits Policy, which requires that pupils participating in school visits have a good record of behaviour at school. If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Yours sincerely

S.R. Lutz (Mrs)
Exchange Organiser
Head of Modern Languages (i/c German)

GERMAN EXCHANGE 2016/17

Please return to the 'German Exchange' box outside the Finance Office by Wednesday 8th June

Pupil's Surname: **(as on passport*)**.....

Pupil's Forenames: **(as on passport*)**.....

Form.....

Passport Number:

Issue Date:

Expiry Date:

Country of Issue:

Dietary requirements (for airline):

** Please note that names must be stated exactly as they appear on your child's passport. An accurate passenger list must be passed on to the airline at the time of booking. Any subsequent name changes will incur an extra charge.*

I would like my son/daughter to participate in the German Exchange from 9th-15th November 2015 and agree to host their German partner from 30th March – 6th April 2017.

I am/am not* prepared to make the contribution requested. (**Please delete as applicable*)

Please tick the appropriate box:

- I enclose £100 as the initial non-refundable deposit towards a total cost of between £425 and £470. I undertake to make full payment by the given deadlines.
- I have made payment online (NB: You must also return this form to school)

I agree to his/her taking part in the activities described. I also consent to any emergency medical treatment, including the use of anaesthetics, necessary during the course of the journey. I understand that for the school's insurance policy to cover any pre-existing medical condition, I must provide a letter from my GP stating my son/daughter is fit to travel.

Emergency contact/medical details. Please tick either box A or B.

- A I confirm that all details held by the school on the gold form concerning emergency contact telephone numbers and/or medical conditions affecting my son/daughter are correct, or that I have already notified the school of any changes.
- B Please note the following change(s) to the above details, which is/are
 - for this visit only permanent.

Signed.....Father/Mother/Legal Guardian Date.....