

Monday 16th October 2017

Spanish Department Trip to Madrid, 2nd - 5th March 2018

Dear Parents,

Thank you for making a deposit payment of £150 in order to book your place on this trip. I can now confirm that your son/ daughter is one of the twenty-three students who will be taking part. There are seven members of our Sixth Form and seventeen members of the Fourth Form all together. The three adults are yet to be finalised, but will include members of the languages department.

We will depart very early on the morning of **Friday 5th March** by coach from Ripon Grammar School to Liverpool John Lennon airport, before catching an 11:25am flight (with Easyjet) to Madrid. Once in Madrid, we will take the Madrid metro to our hotel, which will be Hostal Madrid in the street called Calle Esparteros, very close to the Plaza Mayor and the Puerta del Sol. Pupils will be lodged in single-sex apartments with pupils of the same age group.

During our visit, we will visit a range of sites of cultural and historical importance, including:

- The Museo del Prado (one of the world's great art museums)
- The Reina Sofia art museum (a short visit to this modern collection to see Picasso's Guernica)
- The Santiago Bernabeu stadium (home to the Real Madrid football team)
- El Escorial, the vast palace complex built by Felipe II in the hills outside Madrid

Although the trip will be short, we intend to hand over all of the in-country communication (finding the way, buying tickets, arranging meals and checking into accommodation, etc.) to the students, and they will also be encouraged to buy their own lunches. It is therefore hoped that this opportunity will increase the amount of Spanish that the students speak during the visit.

Evening meals will be arranged at a later date, but are likely to feature typical Spanish food on most or all nights. I would be very grateful if you can send me any dietary requirements as soon as possible, so that I can choose the best venues for meals.

On our return journey we will fly with Easyjet again, arriving in Liverpool at **17:10 on Monday 5th March**, before travelling back to Ripon, probably arriving by 21:00.

Please can you pay the remaining amount to a total of £450 via ParentPay as soon as possible, and before **Thursday 30th November 2017**. I will contact you later this term to request passport details and to give you further information. It is likely that a Parents Information Meeting will be held in early February regarding the trip. I will shortly advise of the exact date for this. If you have any queries regarding any of this, please do not hesitate to contact me at chamberlaint@ripongrammar.co.uk

Yours sincerely,

Mr I. T. Chamberlain

Head of Modern Foreign Languages