



Re-founded 1555

# Ripon Grammar School

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## GCSE (Year 11) History: Trip to the Castles of Edward I (Wales), Friday 14– Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> Sept, 2018 (Cost - £75)

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2018

Dear Parent or Guardian,

The History Department is organising a two-day trip to study the castles and fortified towns constructed by Edward I during his conquest of Wales. The trip will take place early in the academic year 2018-19 and is designed to complement the GCSE History curriculum, within which Edward I's campaigns constitute an important topic.

The trip is particularly relevant to this year group as their AQA GCSE examination in 2019 will feature an extended question specifically focused on Caernarvon Castle, one of the main sites visited on the trip. Whilst visiting the site is not a mandatory requirement from the examination board, we are keen to give as many pupils as possible the opportunity to study these extraordinary buildings in person. The price is **£75** and will include coach transport, entrance fees, accommodation and all meals besides those two eaten whilst travelling.

The group will depart by coach for Conwy on Friday morning after arriving at school at the normal time, stopping at relevant sites on the way. Overnight accommodation will be at the Conwy Youth Hostel, comfortable and well-reviewed hostel which occupies a spectacular setting above Conwy itself, with panoramic views of the Snowdonia national park to its south and Conwy Bay to the north. The second day of the trip will involve visiting Caernarvon and its castle, an enormous stronghold designed by Edward to resemble a Roman fortress and reflect his imperial ambitions across the whole British Isles. Overall, the itinerary is designed so that students leave Wales with a deeper understanding of the causes, events and consequences of this vital chapter in Welsh, English and British history.

Unfortunately, due to limited accommodation at the Youth Hostel and large numbers studying the subject in Year 11, not all those studying GCSE history will be able to come on the trip. As demand for places is expected to be high, an early sign-up is encouraged. Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis, or 'out of a hat' if necessary.

If you would like your son or daughter to take part, please pay a deposit of £20 via the ParentPay website by **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> July**. Signing-up via ParentPay will also allow you to give parental permission for the trip. If the trip is oversubscribed, the deposit payment will of course be returned to those missing out. Otherwise, the full trip cost (a further £55) will be due for payment by **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September**. A further letter and medical form will follow with precise details for those who have secured a place on the trip.

If you have any concerns about financing this trip, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Wright, Head of Upper School. For any other queries about this visit, please feel free to contact me at school.

Yours faithfully,

**Mr D Bruce**

History Department

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