



# The Chantry School

EXCELLENCE IN ALL | EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

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Dear Parent/Carer,

## Year 9 trip to the Battlefields Monday 8th- 12th July inclusive Cost of trip: £450

We are excited to be offering our second year of the Year 9 English and History Trip to see the WW1 battlefields. It was a hugely successful and enjoyable experience for all those who went in July 2023. Currently, Y9 are studying a play 'Journey's End' written by RC Sherriff, based on his experiences in the war. The theme of WW1 is continued when we study WW1 poetry for GCSE English literature. In History, after Christmas, they will be studying the origins of WW1, so it seems like a great time to extend and enhance their knowledge and understanding of WW1 by providing an opportunity beyond the classroom.

The group size: We can take up to 98 pupils (if there isn't enough demand we will only take 45 pupils)

Originally, the trip last year was for 45 pupils, but it was so oversubscribed we managed to take 98 pupils, and we've arranged to do this again this year - should the need arise. Without going into too much detail, if 98 pupils go, we will split the group in half and then one group completes the itinerary as below, and the other group does it in reverse. However, we all meet up on Day 3 at the theme park.

Briefly, the itinerary is as follows:

### Day One:

Departure from the school at 06.00. Ferry/Eurotunnel to Dover and arrival in Calais.

First, we will head down to **Vimy Ridge** where there will be an opportunity to visit the museum, the Memorial and the trenches. (**Route départementale 55, 62580 Vimy**). Onwards to the **Hotel Poppies** in Albert. (1 Rue du 8 Mai 1945, 8030 Albert) and evening meal at our accommodation.

### Day Two:

After breakfast, we will visit a range of battlefields including the Somme and Thiepval.

### Day Three:

Breakfast and departure for the **Bellawaerde** theme park.

Evening meal at our hotel

### Day Four :

Breakfast and departure for a day studying the **Ypres Salient, Passchendaele and Langemark** to visit the German cemetery.

Evening meal at the hotel at 18:00 and then the **Last Post Ceremony** at 20:00

### Day Five :

Breakfast and departure for **Poperinge** and the **Talbot House Museum**.

(Gasthuisstraat 43, 8970 Poperinge)

Return ferry/shuttle with arrival at school at approximately **20:00**

### **The cost includes:**

- Accommodation in specified hostel/hotel
- Coach transport throughout the tour and ferry/shuttle crossing
- All meals from evening day one and ending with picnic lunch on day five
- **ALL ENTRANCE FEES**
- Risk assessments on venues and accommodation to include updated guidelines on Covid
- The services of at least one Tour Director throughout the visit, who will travel with the group, lead excursions, provide lessons and some activities and organise meals
- **Insurance** with Endsleigh to cover possible cancellation resulting from Covid and access to a Covid helpline.

In addition to the trip cost, pupils will need money only to buy snacks, drinks and souvenirs.

### **ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS**

#### **Each pupil must be in possession of:**

- **a valid passport;**
- **a EHIC card** which does not expire before the trip ends. Alternatively, please apply for a UK GHIC as soon as possible (more info on <https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/healthcare-abroad/apply-for-a-free-uk-global-health-insurance-card-ghic/>).

#### **Your child's passport must meet 2 requirements. It must be:**

- less than 10 years old on the day you enter (check the 'date of issue')
- valid for at least 3 months after the day you plan to leave (check the 'expiry date')

Check both the issue date and the expiry date in your passport. If you renewed your passport early, extra months may have been added to its expiry date. This could affect the requirement for your passport to be less than 10 years old.

**COVID regulations:** at the moment of writing Europe seems to have lifted all or most of the restrictions. Please be aware that any change to the current situation is beyond our responsibility.

### **HOW TO SECURE A PLACE**

To secure a place for your son/ daughter on this trip, a **non-refundable** deposit payment of **£80.00** must be completed on the School Gateway by Friday **October 13th**. If the trip is over-subscribed, we will draw names from all the pupils who have paid deposits by the deadline, according to the school's trips and visits policy. Any unsuccessful pupils will have their deposits returned. We also reserve the right to withdraw a pupil from the trip later on in the year if we have serious behaviour concerns.

Prior to the trip departing, I will arrange a parents' information evening in June. Please do not hesitate to contact me at [nclear@chantryschool.com](mailto:nclear@chantryschool.com) or Miss Thomas on [sthomas@chantryschool.com](mailto:sthomas@chantryschool.com) if you have any questions or comments.

Yours sincerely,



Nicola Clear  
English Teacher/Deputy Headteacher