

# SOUTHEND HIGH SCHOOL FOR BOYS

## ACADEMY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Prittlewell Chase, Southend-on-Sea, Essex, SS0 0RG  
(01702) 606200 enquiries@shsb.org.uk www.shsb.org.uk

Headteacher: Robin M Bevan MA MEd PhD FRSA



December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **RE: Berlin Trip, 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

With our departure only a couple of weeks into next term, we are writing regarding some of the final details concerning the Berlin trip taking place in January. We appreciate that when we return to school in January, your child will be very focused on the demands of mock week, therefore, we hope they will take the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the contents of this letter ahead of that time to ensure any queries/concerns they have are flagged with us as soon as possible.

As with any school trip, please note that when in Berlin all pupils are bound by the regulations in the school's Code of Conduct for Trips and Visits. Please review these regulations via the link below and ensure that your child is aware of the required standards of behaviour.

<https://www.shsb.org.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=1070>

### **Departure from and return to school**

We will meet at school outside the main gates at 03:20 on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January. Our flight number on 17<sup>th</sup> January is BA992. [Please can we encourage students to have an early night on the Tuesday so they have *some* sleep before heading to school in the early hours of Wednesday].

On our return we will let students know to contact home once we are on the coach and on our way back to school. Our flight number on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January is BA995. Please do not wait in the bus stop outside the school as this is where the coach will park.

### **Contacting us whilst on the trip**

If there is something that is not urgent, please contact school on [enquiries@shsb.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@shsb.org.uk). However, if it requires more immediate attention, you can contact us via the school phone on 07981 770404.

### **Passports**

Please send your child in with their passport on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January. They should hand it in to Mr Sainsbury in the Sixth Form office at breaktime, or they can be handed in to Mrs Wightman in the finance office. The passports will be kept securely in school overnight until Tuesday afternoon when Mr Sainsbury will keep hold of them prior to our departure.



## **Hotel Details**

Our hotel is the MEININGER Hotel Berlin Hauptbahnhof Elie-Trebe Strasse 9 Berlin 10557 and the contact number is 0049 303 187 9768.

## **Our itinerary**

Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> January	03:30 Coach to Heathrow from SHSB 08:35 Flight Departs 11:30 Land in Berlin 10:00 Free time in Berlin City Centre 11:30 Guided Walking Tour of Berlin 13:30 Arrive at the hotel, free time for lunch (not included) 15:00 3 hour guided tour, starting at Brandenburg Gate 18:00 Guided tour concludes 18:30 Dinner Reservation – Hard Rock Café (included) 19:30 Return to hotel/Free time/Evening visit to Brandenburg Gate	Students will need to wear comfortable shoes/trainers that are suitable for walking in. They should also have suitable coats for the cold [and rain too, given the time of year].  Students will need money for all food on this day except Dinner which is included. Breakfast is likely to be at Heathrow and Lunch will be a choice from a variety of places available in the centre of Berlin.
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> January	07:30 Breakfast at the hotel (included) 09:00 DDR Museum Visit 11:00 Berlin Communist & Socialist Walking tour 14:00 Free time for lunch (not included) 15:00 Visit to the Stasi Museum 18:00 Reservation at Amrit Restaurant [included] 20:15 – Arrive for night visit to the Reichstag Building & Dome viewing platform 22:00 Return to the hotel	Students will need suitable footwear for walking and it will be cold so will need to have suitable clothing to be wrapped up warm as we will be outside much of the day.  Students will need money for lunch.
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> January	08:00 Breakfast at the hotel (included) 10:00 Arrive at the Europa Experience 11:30 Free time for Lunch [not included] and souvenir shopping 13:30 Meet coach at the accommodation 14:45 Check-In at Berlin airport 17:45 Flight Departs 21:30 Approx. time coach arrives at SHSB	Students will need money for lunch (in Berlin) and may want something for a snack/dinner (at Berlin Airport) and any souvenirs.

## **What to bring**

When packing, please be mindful of restrictions for hand luggage which can be found here – <https://www.britishairways.com/en-gb/information/baggage-essentials/liquids-and-restrictions>

Hand Luggage: One piece of standard baggage no bigger than 56 cm x 45 cm x 25 cm including the handle, pockets and wheels

Checked Luggage: One piece not exceeding 23 kg and no bigger than 90 cm x 75 cm x 43 cm including the handle, pockets and wheels

Hand luggage should be a rucksack which students will be able to use on each day of the trip to carry the things they need for that day.

To be on the safe side, students should pack a change of clothes in their hand luggage in case their luggage gets delayed as this will ensure they have at least one change of clothes when arriving in Berlin if their hold luggage doesn't make it across at the same time as us.

Coat/Waterproofs – students should have warm clothing with them and a warm coat for being outside, if this is not waterproof they should also bring a waterproof coat with them too in case of rain. We will be spending a lot of our time on the trip outdoors so being warm and weatherproof as much as is possible will be crucial. Hat/Gloves/Scarf would also be advisable in case it is particularly cold or windy.

Footwear – Students should wear shoes which are comfortable, suitable for walking for some time and should be waterproof. They should consider having a pair of shoes to wear in the evening around the hotel to give their feet a rest from the shoes they have spent most of the day in, especially if their shoes become wet and need to dry out.

Reusable water bottle – Students are encouraged to bring a reusable water bottle that can be filled up each day to limit our impact and reduce the number of plastic bottles that are bought/used.

Money – students will need money to cover their lunch on each day as well as breakfast on Wednesday and food in the evening on Friday. Additionally, if they want to buy snacks and/or gifts/souvenirs they will need money for that too. As we will be outside for some extended periods during our visit, it is also likely students will want money for a hot drink at points during the trip to keep themselves warm.

### **Thank You**

Thank you again for your support with these arrangements. Please do let us know if there are any additional questions and we look forward to a successful trip in just over a month.

Yours sincerely,

Mr E Sainsbury  
Leader of Year 12 & Leader of PSHE  
Teacher of Politics and Citizenship

Mrs H Foley  
Teacher of History