

# 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



November 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian,

### Re: Proposed European Space Academy Trip 2020

We propose to take a 6-day trip to the European Space Academy near Brussels, departing on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2020. This trip is academically demanding and therefore places are limited to those students who have achieved high grades in Physical Science and Mathematics and good effort throughout year 9 and the beginning of year 10. I am very pleased to inform you that your son has achieved these levels and I am able to offer him the opportunity to take part in this trip.

During this weeklong program, trainees get hands-on astronaut experience, as well as learning about the mental, emotional and physical demands astronauts must face. Fields of study include Engineering, Space Technology and Aerospace Science. As the camp is in the French speaking part of Belgium students will also get the opportunity to practice their language skills.

The cost of this trip will be **£750** and includes as much as you can eat at all meals, drinks with meals, all activities, transfers and accommodation. There are some limited places remaining available on this trip which are being offered on a first-come first-served basis in terms of returned deposits. Should you wish your son to take part, I will need a **non-refundable deposit of £150 by Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> of November**.

In order to ensure fairness, all deposits must be paid via WisePay which will be opened for payments at **1.00pm on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October**. Any students who miss out on a place can give their name to me and I will place it on a waiting list. If you have any concerns over these payments, please feel free to contact me on my email address: [Imp@shsb.org.uk](mailto:Imp@shsb.org.uk). No student should be at a disadvantage due to financial concerns.

You will understand that staff remain *in loco parentis* throughout the duration of all school trips. We will need to be confident that each pupil will respond to expectations, and those who have not demonstrated a sufficiently good record of behaviour may forfeit the opportunity to join the trip. As the trip will be departing during term time your son will also be expected to catch up any missed work on return.

Yours sincerely

Mrs L Peek  
Trip Organiser



**A typical day includes:-**

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	Trainees wake up and prepare for the day. Breakfast is served in the cafeteria.
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Trainees participate in exciting astronaut training simulators such as:  MAT (Multi-Axis trainer): Feel what it's like to tumble and spin in space!  5DF Chair (Five Degrees of Freedom): Experience the challenge of working in a frictionless environment like space!  1/6th Gravity Chair: The moon has 1/6th of the Earth's gravity, so if your weight 120 pounds on Earth you would only weigh 20 pounds on the moon - what would it feel like to walk on the moon? You'll find out on this simulator!  MMU (Manned Manoeuvring Unit): This simulator prepares astronauts for working during extra-vehicular activity.  Simulated Shuttle Mission Training: During this time campers learn about and prepare for their simulate shuttle mission. Our Mission Centre Complex hosts shuttle simulators, mission controls, and a mock-up of the International Space Station.
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	During and after lunch trainees have time to socialize, practice their French and participate in team building activities.
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Our trainees participate in space related activities such as:  Participation in activities that teach the history of manned space flight while observing real artefacts from the space program.  Build your own rocket and launch it toward space from our rocket launch facility.  Trainees are treated to a visit from special speakers such as rocket scientists, engineers, and astronauts.
5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Dinner is served in the cafeteria.
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	Trainees will prepare for the following days activities and undertake team building tasks.
9:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	Return to their hotel and prepare for bed.
10:30 p.m.	Lights Out!