

Dear Parents and Carers of Year 10 GCSE History students,

**GCSE History residential visit to the Netherlands 23-25<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

The History Team are delighted to announce an opportunity to visit the Netherlands later this year to enrich the History GCSE course. The visit is not a compulsory part of the course but our aim is to provide current Year 10 History GCSE students with an opportunity to experience first-hand what life was like in Nazi-occupied Europe. The visit also supports our students' understanding of the Holocaust.

**Brief itinerary:**

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October: depart SVCS at 0700 hrs. Coach travel to the Netherlands via Channel Tunnel. Check into accommodation which will be located in an area that is about 20 minutes' drive from Amsterdam City Centre.

Thurs 23-25<sup>th</sup> October: visit Camp Vught (Only SS concentration camp in Western Europe holding 31,000 prisoners and liberated by Allies in 1944), Anne Frank Museum, Homomonument (monument to the persecution and discrimination of homosexuals), Portuguese Synagogue (10% of the population of Amsterdam were Jewish in 1939. Legacy to a once vibrant Jewish community), No9 Plantage Parklaan, Hollandsche Schouwburg Theatre, Auschwitz Memorial and Jewish Museum.

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> October: Depart. Arrive back at SVCS late evening.

**Operator:** Three operators have been approached but we have decided to use **Anglia Tours**. A recent winner of the 'Best School Tour Operator' award and a company that we have used many times before. The guides will be with us for the entirety of the visit.

**Cost:** £560. This includes guides, transport, accommodation, insurance, food at accommodation, Parent Pay fee, entry to museums. Students will need to pay for a lunch/sandwich en route between the Channel Tunnel and the accommodation on day 1. This should be no more than 15 Euros.

We are very aware that this visit may not be affordable to all families. With this in mind, we are on the waiting list for 'Testimony 360' team to come to school and provide some sessions based on the Holocaust with testimonials and virtual tours delivered by virtual reality headsets. [Holocaust Educational Trust - Testimony360 \(het.org.uk\)](http://HolocaustEducationalTrust-Testimony360(het.org.uk)). This will be free to parents and will help enrich our students' understanding of the Holocaust.

Places will be filled on a first-come-first-served basis. **If you would like your child to come on this visit act now by replying to this email with YES and your child's name.** The next step will involve a non-refundable deposit of £60 being paid via Parent Pay no later than 28<sup>th</sup> February. The remaining amount can be paid via instalments between now and the end of July.

Best wishes

Miss K Terry, Subject Co-ordinator of History

