



May 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians,

French Exchange 2019/2020

Following the success of last year's exchange trip to France, students studying French in years 9 and 10 are invited to take part in an exchange with Sainte Claire School in Bordeaux, in the South West of France. We would like to visit the town from Sunday 22nd September to Sunday 29th September 2019* with a return visit to England by the French students by March/April 2020. We would be travelling by plane. The cost is expected to be in the region of £330.00, which includes a deposit of £100 to secure a place.

There are sound educational reasons for participating in an exchange because it certainly gives a boost to language learning; we hope you will allow your child to take part.

During the exchange, students will stay in a family and live as a member of that family. They will, however, have the opportunity to meet with other members of the group during the school week. As well as spending time in the school, they will take part in excursions and visits. In return, you would be asked to host a French student for seven days in similar circumstances. Your visitor does not need a separate room; in fact, for many, it is easier if they share, as this makes the integration into the family much simpler. It might not always be possible to match students by gender.

To ensure the safety of your child and of your guest, rooms must only be shared between young people of the same gender and of a similar age. We will require a signed declaration confirming that no member of the household is an inappropriate person to be with young people and it may be necessary for adults within the household to be CRB checked. The schools will retain the right to check the accommodation before the homestay takes place and there may be random visits during the homestay. We will also ask families in France and England to cater for the dietary needs of the guest (including vegetarian meals or diets dictated by health, faith or ethnicity). Student guests will be asked to complete an evaluation questionnaire. I hope that you understand that these precautionary measures are in the interest of your child.

Headteacher: Mr N Bradwell BA (Hons) NPQH

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If you would like your child to take part, please fill in the attached form and return it to the MFL office by 7th June 2019 with a deposit of £100 payable by Wisepay (non-refundable, unless we are able to find a suitable replacement). Using the school 'Wisepay' system your payments will be automatically recorded. The information should be filled in carefully and returned immediately to enable us to begin the process of finding suitable exchange partners as soon as possible and to allow students to begin writing to each other. You will need to obtain 2 passport-sized photographs for our records and preferably return them with this information form or soon afterwards.

Please note that all pupils will be expected to have their own passports, and that arrangements to obtain one should be made well in advance of the visit once you know your child has a place on the exchange. It is also essential to obtain a European Health Insurance Card.

There will be a meeting with parents at school during the autumn term. However, should you wish to discuss any issues before this date, please contact me on the main school number.

I hope that your son/daughter will be able to take part in this exciting venture. Many schools are unable to run exchanges; we are therefore fortunate in being able to offer this opportunity. We value our relations with our partner school and we hope that you will give your support to this activity. I look forward to receiving your application by Friday 7th June.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "B. Smales". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Mrs B. Smales
Head of Modern Foreign Languages

*Dates are provisional at the moment and will be confirmed as soon as possible

PLEASE RETURN TO THE MFL DEPARTMENT BY 7th June 2019

French Exchange 2019/2020

I would like my son/daughter _____ (capital letters)

Tutor Group _____ to take part in the 2019/2020 exchange with Sainte Claire

School in Bordeaux and I have paid the deposit of £100 (non-refundable) via Wisepay in order to secure a place.

I/we agree to host a French student in our family home.

I/we understand that certain safety checks will need to be carried out prior to the visits.

Name: _____

Tel No: _____

Address: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____