



Dear Parents and Carers,

2<sup>nd</sup> October 2018

## Year 10 Spanish Exchange 2019

Following another very successful trip last year, the Modern Foreign Languages Department is planning the next Spanish Exchange trip. We are offering this exchange to students studying Spanish in Year 10. Our students will go to stay with families in Madrid from **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> - Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019**. The Spanish students will visit England in May or June (exact dates tbc). Our partner school is I.E.S. Las Canteras which is in Collado Villalba, a small town 30km NW of Madrid. The school website is: <https://external.educa2.madrid.org/web/centro.ies.lascanteras.colladovillalba/inicio>

We aim to match students with similar interests so that their stay as part of the family enables them not only to practise their language skills but also helps them to fully experience the Spanish way of life. If there are more English students than Spanish we will match students using information given on the character profile that all exchange students complete. Students will be given further details about this soon, but detailed completion of the form will be essential. **Any student not paired will have their deposit refunded in full.**

During the day, while the Spanish students are at school, visits and excursions will be arranged to Madrid and other places of interest in the region. In recent years we have visited Estadio Santiago Bernabeu, the home of Real Madrid football team, sampled Spanish tapas food and learnt about the visceral tradition of Spanish Bull Fighting. Our students will be accompanied on these trips by members of staff from the Piggott School.

The students will also experience Spanish school life by spending a day in Las Canteras School. In the evening and at weekends, the students will be with their exchange partner and family who often organise extra activities for them. The same arrangement will apply when the Spanish students come here. As a host family you will be responsible for offering board and lodging and for ensuring safe travel arrangements for your guest to and from the Piggott School. An information meeting for all parents and students will be held prior to the departure of the trip.

**The cost of this exchange is expected to be between £350-450**, which will include travel to and from Heathrow, flights, excursions in Spain, insurance, staffing and admin costs. If you wish for your child to attend this trip **an initial non-refundable payment of £150 is required by Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2018**. Should the numbers participating fall below the required figure then there will either be an increase in the cost or, if there is insufficient interest, the trip will not take place. Pupils in receipt of free school meals are eligible for funding on this trip/activity/visit. If your child is in receipt of pupil premium, the school may be able to help with the funding of the trip should you require financial assistance. Please contact Romany Greatrex for further details.

Whilst away all students are expected to behave to a very high standard, as laid out in the School Behaviour contract. If, prior to the trip, it becomes apparent that an individual student's behaviour is unacceptable at School and causes us concern, you will be contacted. We reserve the right to withdraw a student from the trip if we believe their behaviour would have a detrimental effect on the rest of the party, or that their own safety and welfare may be at risk. We would endeavour to find a replacement student and then all monies may be refunded, subject to an administration charge. However, if we are unable to find a replacement, the initial payment and any additional cancellation charges or costs incurred, cannot be refunded.

This exchange is a fantastic opportunity for students to improve their language skills and experience Spanish culture at first hand. It is worth mentioning that the lifestyle in Spain is quite different to what our students might be used to here. Mealtimes are generally much later and people tend to go to bed later. It is normal and considered safe for young people to be out quite late in the evening and street culture is an everyday part of Spanish life.

If wish your child to take part in this trip, please use our [ONLINE CONSENT FORM](#) or **return the form below to Romany Greatrex** (Partnerships and Community Administrator), **and make the initial payment of £150, by Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October**. The remaining balance will be payable in 3 instalments – the schedule of payments will be communicated in due course, once we confirm final costs.

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact me, or Romany Greatrex, at school.

Yours sincerely,

Mr M. Connor

Head of MFL

[connorm@piggottschool.org](mailto:connorm@piggottschool.org)





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Please return this reply slip to **Romany Greatrex** (Partnership and Community Administrator) **and make your deposit payment of £150 by Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2018**. Alternatively, you may use our [ONLINE CONSENT FORM](#).

Deposits are non-refundable *unless* the trip does not go ahead *or* we are unable to successfully pair your child with a Spanish exchange partner.

**Student Name** (print in full, as on passport): ..... **Tutor Group**: .....

I would like my child to join the **Year 10 Spanish Exchange 2019**. I have read the information on the attached letter regarding this exchange trip and I understand that we will be required to host a Spanish student in the summer term.

I have made the initial deposit payment of £150, online. Online payment should be made by going to The Piggott School website and clicking on the 'Parents' tab, then choose the 'online payments/purchasing' option.

**OR** I enclose a **cheque** for the initial non-refundable deposit payment of £150. Cheques should be made payable to The Piggott School with the name and tutor group of your child and 2019 Spanish Exchange Deposit written on the back.

Exchange visits are reliant on pairing children with exchange partners. I understand that if we are unable to secure a suitable pairing for your child, all monies paid will be refunded in full. To this extent, the deposit payment cannot guarantee a place on the exchange.

I understand that it is my responsibility to ensure my child's eligibility to travel. All students must have a **current passport** and a valid **EHIC** (European Health Insurance Card). You can apply for an EHIC online at: [www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/healthcare-abroad/apply-for-a-free-ehic-european-health-insurance-card](http://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/healthcare-abroad/apply-for-a-free-ehic-european-health-insurance-card)

I confirm that the medical/dietary information held at school is correct.

I confirm that my child has no medical conditions that might affect their performance or safety on this trip

**OR** I have given details of any new medical/dietary information that the school is unaware of and any medical conditions that might affect my child's performance or safety on this trip. This email has been sent to [medical@piggottschool.org](mailto:medical@piggottschool.org), stating clearly the name of my child, their tutor group and trip name.

I agree to staff giving permission for any emergency treatment that the medical authorities deem necessary. I undertake to inform the school of any changes in my child's fitness prior to departure. I have ensured, as far as I reasonably can, that my child understands that it is important to safety that any rules and instructions given by the staff in charge are obeyed.

I agree that, should my child withdraw prior to the trip, or I am unable to continue payments, I would lose the initial payment, and any payments already made would be used to cover cancellation charges, the balance being refunded.

If there are any changes to your child's medical/dietary conditions between now and the time of the trip, please ensure you let us know by emailing [medical@piggottschool.org](mailto:medical@piggottschool.org).

**Please contact the school if your emergency contact details for the duration of the trip will be different to those already held by the school.**

**Name of Parent /Carer:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **(Parent/Carer)**

