



Dear Parents/Carers

18th January 2019

Year 12 – China Study Camp – 13/14th-27/28th July 2019 (exact dates tbc)

Our School has been offered 10 places on a **China Study Camp**, organized by UCL/IOE Confucius Institute and generously subsidized by Hanban. We are offering the 10 places on this 2-week trip to our current Year 12 students. Your child has been shown a presentation with further details about this fantastic opportunity. The visit is for students who are interested in studying Chinese, or who are interested in learning about the language and culture. There is no requirement for the students to have any previous knowledge of Chinese. Students will be accompanied by two members of staff from The Piggott School.

For the last twelve years, UCL IOE Confucius Institute for Schools has worked with the Office of Chinese Language Council International (Hanban) to organise study visits to China for secondary school students in England. To date over 3,700 British students and teachers from 130 individual schools across the country have benefited from this excellent opportunity to learn Chinese language and about Chinese culture.

The study camps have been running for 12 years and are managed by UCL IOE Confucius Institute. The trip is heavily subsidized by Hanban, who pay all the **in-China** costs, including language and cultural lessons, food, accommodation, travel, transportation and tourist excursions and visits.

During the trip, participants will spend several days visiting places of historical and cultural interest in Beijing. They will then spend the majority of their time in host institutions/schools in a province. During their time in China, participants will take part in:

- 20 hours of Chinese learning
- traditional Chinese cultural activities such as Tai Ji and paper cutting
- visits to local historical and cultural places of interest
- activities with local Chinese students
- home visits (organised by host schools), where possible

Visit the Confucius Institute website for sample programmes: ciforschools.wordpress.com/previous-study-camps

The cost of the trip will be **approximately £1575** per student. This is to cover the cost of flights, staffing, insurance and administration. As mentioned before, the in-China costs are all funded by Hanban, making this trip very good value. Pupils who were in receipt of free school meals in Year 11 may be eligible for bursary funding on this trip should you require financial assistance. Please contact Mr Dusterhoft for further details.

If you would like your child to take part in this trip please complete the consent form below, confirming any changes to the medical information we hold, by **Friday 25th January 2019**. Once your place is confirmed, a deposit will be required on 1st February 2019. Please contact me if you will need an alternative payment schedule.

An information meeting for all parents and students will be held prior to the departure of the trip. Should you have any further questions in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me on the school telephone number or email me at the address below.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Romany Greatrex

Partnerships and Community Administrator - greatrex@piggottschool.org





China Study Camp 2019 – Additional Information

Due to the limited number places available we have been asked by Hanban to select students according to certain criteria, including the following:

1. Students must be non-native Chinese language speakers.
2. Students should not have a close family background in Chinese (i.e. parents who are native Mandarin or Cantonese Chinese speakers).
3. Students should be healthy and able to travel internationally.
4. Students should be mature enough to cope with spending two weeks away from home, and should be well-behaved, flexible and open-minded about a different culture.
5. Students must be able to attend the visit programme in its entirety, starting the journey from the designated UK airport and returning to the UK airport. No special travel arrangements can be made.

In the event of oversubscription, the School will assess suitability according to these criteria to make the final selection, particularly in respect of criteria 4 where all other criteria are met.

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 departing it becomes apparent that an individual student's behaviour is unacceptable at School, thus causing 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 their own safety and/or their welfare may be at risk. If we were unable to find a replacement student, the initial payment and any incurred cancellation charges, would not be refunded.

The contribution required for the trip to take place will be around **£1575** per student. The final cost will be confirmed once we have confirmation from IOE Confucius Institute. Should the numbers fall below the required figure then there will either be an increase in the cost or if there is insufficient interest, the trip would not take place.

Students **must have** a current passport and are required to obtain a **Chinese visa**. The cost of a visa is approximately £150 and is not included in the cost of the trip as it needs to be paid directly to the Chinese Visa Application Service Center. Students are required to attend a Center in person in order for fingerprints to be taken. Please visit www.visaforchina.org for further details. **NB: Parent are responsible for ensuring a student's eligibility to travel.**

Payment Schedule:		
Deposit	£ 250	1st February 2019
	£ 350	1 st March 2019
	£ 350	1 st April 2019
	£ 350	1 st May 2019
Final balance payment	£ 275 (tbc)	1 st June 2019
(final cost will be confirmed in Dec)	£ 1575	(approximately)

Payment should be made online where possible. Cheques are also acceptable and should be made payable to The Piggott School. On the back of each cheque please write the **name** of your son/daughter, their **tutor group** and **China Study Camp 2019**.

Please note that should your child withdraw prior to the trip, or you are unable to continue payments, you would lose the initial payment, and any payments already made would be used to cover cancellation charges, the balance being refunded.





Year 12 – China Study Camp – 13/14th-27/28th July 2019 (exact dates tbc)

Please return this Consent Form to Mrs Romany Greatrex by Friday 25th January 2019

Student's Name _____ Tutor Group _____

- I confirm that I have received the letter about the **China Study Camp** in July 2019 and I give permission for my child to take part.
- I understand that a deposit payment of **£250** will be required by **1st February 2019**. Payment will be requested once places have been confirmed.
- I understand that it is my responsibility to ensure my child's eligibility to travel to China. **This includes ensuring my child's passport is valid AND applying for and obtaining a Chinese visa.**
- I confirm that the medical/dietary information held at school is correct and 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, by emailing medical@piggottschool.org. **In your email please clearly state the name of your child, their tutor group and the name of the trip**
- 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 and administration, the balance being refunded.
- I agree to my child's medical, emergency contact and other details being shared as necessary with IOE Confucius Institute/Hanban in relation to the administration of this trip. This is to ensure the safety and wellbeing of your child, and to arrange international flights.
- I undertake to inform the school of any changes in my child's fitness prior to departure.
- I agree to staff giving permission for any emergency treatment that the medical authorities deem necessary while on this trip.
- 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.

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.

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)

