



# Midhurst Rother College

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

13 July 2022

Dear Parent / Carer

## Christmas Markets trip 2022

I hope your Year 11 son / daughter is enjoying a well-deserved rest after sitting so many exams this term! We look forward to welcoming them to our Sixth Form after the summer holiday. I am writing to you about a weekend trip we are running for students in Years 11-13 at Midhurst Rother College. This trip is over a long weekend in December, open to Sixth Formers whether or not they are studying a language at A level. Students may enjoy learning / revising some German before they go or putting their GCSE German skills to use! As you may know, German cities have a long tradition of setting up stalls at the start of the Advent season every year to hold Christmas markets. For four weeks every winter, there are stalls selling Christmas crafts and gifts, foods & drinks, as well as some amusements and beautifully crafted nativity scenes. We plan to take students by coach to the lively city of Cologne for a long weekend from 15 – 19 December.

The trip will leave from College on the afternoon of Thursday 15 December to arrive around midnight in Cologne. The next day will be a half day in school and the end of term, so few lessons will be missed during our trip. The cost of the trip will be £375, to include all visits, activities and most meals. Between Friday and Monday, we will pack in as many activities as possible; climbing the Cologne Cathedral tower for a great view of the city and its surroundings, visiting several of Cologne's nine Christmas markets, ice skating at the great outdoor rink (set up near the banks of the river Rhine in the city centre every winter), trying out the freshly made wares at the famous chocolate factory and walking or cruising along the river Rhine. Lunches will be bought at the market stalls. In the evenings, we will eat at our modern and comfortable hostel or at a traditional German restaurant. On Saturday we will visit some highlights of the Rhine valley, including the Marksburg castle and the picturesque town of Koblenz, at the confluence of the Moselle and Rhine rivers. On Sunday, we will visit the famous FC Köln football stadium, the city zoo or take in some galleries or museums if the weather is too cold or wet.

After breakfast on Monday morning, our coach will take us homewards, via Aachen or Lille, both well known for their Christmas markets too. This is a very enjoyable trip I have run many times. We already have a good-sized group coming along with us but there are a few spare places that we would like to offer to students starting Year 12 in September. At Midhurst Rother College we are very lucky to have the financial support of the Gilbert Hannam Educational Fund. This Trust will contribute generously towards the costs of students' study trips where families find themselves in difficult financial circumstances. Please contact Gemma Down in the finance department if you would like to apply for a grant towards this trip.

**Principal: Stuart Edwards**

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The first deposit of £75 for the trip can be made via the online payment system using the following link: <https://www.scopay.com/midhurst?redirect=true>. If you require support with the online process, please contact our finance department (Gemma.Down@[mrc-academy.org](mailto:mrc-academy.org)). If you do not have access to the internet, please make cheques payable to 'Midhurst Rother College'. Please contact me on email if you have any questions about the trip (fiona.lunskey@mrc-academy.org).

Yours sincerely



Mrs F J Lunskey  
Assistant Principal, Raising Standards

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**Reply slip**

Trip title: *Christmas Markets weekend 2022*      Trip Leader: Mrs Lunskey  
Date of trip/residential: Thursday 15 December – Monday 19 December 2022

Name of Student: ..... Tutor Group: .....

I would like my son / daughter to take part in the Christmas Markets weekend trip

I have made a payment through the cashless system       Please tick

Name of parent/carer: .....Contact Tel: .....

Signed..... Date: .....

**Please return this slip to Student Reception**

If the trip is oversubscribed you will be contacted by the trip leader to confirm whether your child has secured a place.