



Midhurst Rother College

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

June 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Computer Science Trip to San Francisco – Thursday 19 October 2023 – 25 Wednesday October 2023

I am very pleased to announce that we will be running a Computer Science Trip to San Francisco in October 2023. This is our second trip, after having to cancel previously due to Covid. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity.

We currently have 30 places available for this fantastic trip. If you would like your son/daughter to attend, please return the slip attached by **30 June 2022**.

The trip is planned to take place during the October half term 2023 leaving on **Thursday 19 October 2023** and returning on **Wednesday 25 October 2023**. We intend to pack in many engaging activities (see examples below). Although this is subject to change. Provisional itinerary:

Thursday 19 October – Wednesday 25 October 2023 inclusive

Activities will include:

- Landing in San Francisco
- Staying in a hostel in the Centre of San Francisco close to all the shops and restaurants of this vibrant city
- The trip is half board and will include breakfast at the Hostel and then dinner at famous restaurants in the city
- Tour of the Silicon Valley
- Visit and tour to Stanford University – home of Computer Science
- Visit the HP Garage – the founding destination of Hewlett Packard of the most famous hardware companies in the world
- Tour of China Town
- Pier 39 – Visit the sea lions, waterfront dining, street performers live music and more
- Computer History Museum – the museum offers a wide variety of information, exhibits, research, and a rich library of multimedia content garnered from some of the most influential people of the computing era
- Visit Alcatraz – step back in time and experience the legendary island that has been a civil war fort, a military prison and one of the most notorious federal penitentiaries in US history
- California Academy of Sciences - This museum is home to an aquarium, the world's deepest Philippine Coral Reef, the only all-digital aquarium in the world, a rainforest canopy, and a Natural History Museum – all under one roof!
- Apple Campus – visit the Company Store which is the original Apple Employee store located at Apple's headquarters in Cupertino.

Principal: Stuart Edwards

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- Googleplex – visitors can stroll the campus and gawk at the public art on the leafy grounds, where scads of Googlers zoom about on primary-coloured bikes.
- Sporting Event – more information to follow

Tuesday 24/Wednesday 25 October

Depart from San Francisco International Airport for return to London Heathrow.

The cost of this fantastic trip will be **£1800.00** per student. Through intensive negotiations with the tour operator, we have tried to ensure that this price represents the best possible value. It includes bed, breakfast and three evening meals, starting with dinner on the first evening and ending with lunch on Tuesday, tour guides, transport to the Airport from College and return journey, all transport and entrance fees. Please be aware that all passports should now be the new style biometric passport (that show a camera on the front of the passport). If your child does not have this type of passport, a new one must be purchased. Students will need to purchase an ESTA (online US Visa). Students will require money for their lunches and any spending money they wish to take.

Due to the cost of this trip, we have launched as early as possible to allow 18 months to make monthly payments in the following schedule:

| Payments Due | Amount | Total |
|----------------|---------|----------|
| June 2022 | £200.00 | £200.00 |
| July 2022 | £100.00 | £300.00 |
| August 2022 | £100.00 | £400.00 |
| September 2022 | £100.00 | £500.00 |
| October 2022 | £150.00 | £650.00 |
| November 2022 | £100.00 | £750.00 |
| January 2023 | £100.00 | £850.00 |
| February 2023 | £150.00 | £1000.00 |
| March 2023 | £150.00 | £1150.00 |
| April 2023 | £150.00 | £1300.00 |
| May 2023 | £150.00 | £1450.00 |
| June 2023 | £150.00 | £1600.00 |
| July 2023 | £200.00 | £1800.00 |

This is an amazing educational and leisure opportunity for our students, who will be accompanied by Midhurst Rother College staff throughout. If you would like your son/daughter to take part, please complete and return the reply slip attached by 24 June 2022.

Please note that places for this trip are **strictly on a first come** basis. Once your son/daughter has been selected to attend the trip, then a deposit of £200.00 will need to be paid by 24 June 2022. If you wish to discuss the finance or any other details of the trip in confidence, please do not hesitate to contact me.

This trip will be open to students who are currently in Year 8, Year 9, Year 10, and Year 11 but please note that students must be attending one of the following courses at the time of this trip:

- GCSE Computer Science (Yr10 or Yr11)
- Creative iMedia (Yr10 or Yr11)
- A-Level Computer Science (Yr12 or Yr13)
- Digital Media (Yr12 or Yr13)

So potentially, students will be selecting one of these subjects as part of their options at an early stage and this will be recorded.

Once a place has been confirmed, you will be added to the Sco-Pay System. Please pay for the trip 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 Hannah Clayton or Gemma Down in our finance department at Finance@mrc-academy.org. If you do not have access to the internet. Please make cheques payable to "Midhurst Rother College".

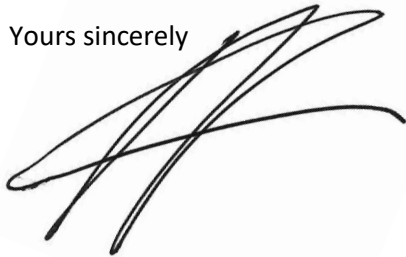
The viability of the trip will depend on the level of interest that we receive. Should you accept a place on this trip but at a later date, for any reason, need to withdraw, then the deposit will be non-refundable and may be subject to further fees, as per the tour operator's cancellation policy, unless a reserve student is able to fill that particular place.

You can find the tour operators cancellation policy at the following link <https://www.diversechooltravel.co.uk/terms and conditions.php>.

I know you will appreciate the high level of responsibility involved in taking students abroad and would like to reiterate that the College reserves the right to cancel the place of any student whose behaviour or attendance, between now and October 2023, leads us to believe that their participation would present too great a risk. In the event of this occurrence, all monies paid that do not incur charges to the travel company will be returned.

I do hope that you are able to consider this fantastic trip for your son/daughter. If you need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me through email dan.downie@mrc-academy.org or by telephone, 01730 812451.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke at the end, positioned to the right of the text 'Yours sincerely'.

Mr D Downie
Subject Leader of Computer Science/Trip Leader



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Consent Slip

Trip title: Computer Science Trip - San Francisco October 2023 – Trip Leader: Mr Downie

Date of trip/residential: Thursday 19 October to Wednesday 25 October 2023

Pleaser reserve a place on the Computer Science Trip – San Francisco for my son/daughter.

Name of Student: Tutor Group:

I have paid a deposit of £200 through the cashless system Please tick

I have paid (Please state how much) through the cashless system Please tick

Name of parent/carer:Contact Tel:

Signed: Date:

Please return this slip to Mrs Bell at Student Reception by 30 June 2022 along with the parental consent form. Thank you.

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