



Midhurst Rother College

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

17 November 2021

Dear Parent / Carer

CLiL Trip to Normandy, 1 – 6 May 2022

I am writing to inform you about an exciting trip to France we are planning for next May. In the Languages department at Midhurst Rother College, we are keen to provide opportunities for students to use their skills in real situations abroad. After fantastic trips with this educational travel company before COVID19 intervened, we have chosen “Normandy Experience” (part of the Voyager group) once again. We will stay in a rural accommodation centre perfectly suited to school groups. Participating students will go on visits in the local area accompanied by College staff and French-speaking group leaders or “animateurs”. With GCSE options in mind, we would like to invite Year 9 students intending to continue with French to accompany this trip, to help build their confidence and fluency. Sadly, it has not been possible to take students on school trips abroad recently, but now at last we can put class work into practice and have some fun speaking French abroad!

The planned itinerary all takes place in the beautiful region of Normandy, which allows us to use the Portsmouth to Caen ferry route, cutting down on coach travel time from Midhurst to our chosen destination. Our packed itinerary includes visits to the UNESCO World Heritage sites of Mont St Michel or the Bayeux tapestry, learning about the D-Day landings in Normandy. Other activities conducted through French include a visit to town on market day to buy lunch and complete a treasure hunt and an outing to a small rural goat farm, to learn about goat husbandry, milk and cheese production (and cuddle baby goats of course!). We will travel back to Portsmouth on an afternoon crossing arriving back at College on Friday evening.

As well as sightseeing, there will be a choice of activities, such as bread-making, orienteering, archery, canoeing or sand yachting, and crafts. Doing activities through a new language provides a very natural way of acquiring new vocabulary. Having used this company before, I know the trip offers great value for money, builds students’ confidence to speak French and teaches them a lot about life in rural France. The trip is arranged from Sunday 1 May to Friday 6 May 2021. The total cost of the trip, including generous meals, all entrances and activities will be £493 per student. The Gilbert Hannam Education Foundation will kindly subsidise us by covering increased costs due to COVID such as a PCR test for students before we depart and before we return to the UK at the end of the trip, as well as an excellent insurance package for each child just in case he / she cannot travel, or indeed if the whole trip could not run for any reason. If your child is eligible for free school meals, or if you are facing difficult financial circumstances, please contact Mrs Lunskey (fiona.lunskey@mrc-academy.org). You may be eligible for a charitable grant towards the trip, and we can assist you in making an individual application to the GHEF for your child. This local educational charity generously supports MRC families with the cost of study trips up to the value of £350.

Principal: Stuart Edwards

Midhurst Rother College
North Street
Midhurst

West Sussex GU29 9DT

t 01730 812451

f 01730 813524

e enquiries@mrc-academy.org

www.mrc-academy.org



@MRC_1st

@MRCSixthForm

Once a place for a student is confirmed, the College will ask parents to pay for the trip in four instalments. After paying the initial, non-returnable deposit of £100 this term, a payment schedule will be sent to you requesting further instalments each month from January to April 2022. Please visit the company's web site to see photos and information at <https://www.the-chateau.com/normandy-experience/>. Do not hesitate to contact me via email at Cecile.Charpentier@mrc-academy.org, should you have other questions. If you are interested in your son / daughter participating in this trip, please complete the reply slip below and return to student reception by Tuesday 30 November. Please pay for the deposit for our 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, do 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'.

We look forward to travelling to France with our students next summer.

Yours sincerely



Cécile Charpentier
Curriculum Leader for Modern Foreign Languages

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Consent slip

Trip title: *Normandy Trip 2022* **Trip Leader:** *Ms Charpentier*

Date of trip/residential: *1-6 May 2022*

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

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 by **30 November 2021**. Thank you.