

4 April 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Trip to Cantabria, España July 10th to 14th 2023

I am writing this letter to gauge interest in the trip above: would your son / daughter/ ward be interested in attending? The Trip is open to students in current year 7 & 8 and to current year 9 Spanish GCSE students.

I have been to Spain many times with students and it is a fantastic experience for them to hear Spanish being spoken, to see what a great place it is and to experience how welcoming and friendly Spanish people are. Students have the chance to learn to love Spain, to use their language skills and experience life in another country through a trip such as this. Cantabria is a beautiful part of Spain with beaches, mountains, warm weather and is less touristy than Barcelona, with several small cities and old towns to visit. We travel with NST and in the past, have flown with Easyjet from Manchester to Bilbao. Although I am still in consultation with the company regarding the itinerary, I am able to give you a proposed breakdown of the trip:

- a 5 day, 4 night visit to Cantabria in Northern Spain
- All meals included (except during flights)
A trip to a cafeteria to experience the world-famous Spanish dessert of Chocolate con Churros.
- A visit to Los Picos de Europa mountain range and a ride in the Fuente De Cable Car.
- Town visit to Potes – a fabulous town at the base of the mountains.
- A meal out to a restaurant to sample authentic Spanish tapas and raciones.
A visit to the beautiful coastal town of Santander to see local land marks and buy souvenirs in the market.
- A visit to the El Soplao caves to see the million year old stalactites and stalagmites.
- A trip to the Cabarceno Wildlife Park to see bears, eagles and many other animals.
- Coach travel from school to the airports and during our time in Spain.

I am hoping to take 40 students. Based on these numbers the provisional cost will be £800. This includes the flights, transport to and from the airport, all food, accommodation and the visits above. The cost has increased considerably since we last went in 2019; the travel company have said their costs and their suppliers' costs have increased and the price changes reflect that. Although **I do not have precise flight details as yet**, the visit is likely to leave school at approximately 7am on Monday 10th July and return at about 7pm on Friday 14th July 2023.

Once I know numbers, I will be able to issue further details regarding Covid and travel requirements. As it stands all travellers entering Spain must be fully vaccinated and provide proof of this. Spain operates its own system of Covid Control and the school has no control over these, please ensure you are comfortable with current travel advice.

I am proposing at this stage that payments after the deposit will be made in monthly instalments across 10 months, but I will know more once the booking proceeds. I fully appreciate in the current economic climate that this information on payments is vital and I have ensured that the cost is spread out as much as possible. The proposed payments for the final amount are below, with payments needed by the end of each of the following months (can be paid early in the month if easier).

Payment Schedule – bring in letter of consent as soon as possible			
1 st May 2022	£100 (deposit to secure place)	December 2022	£50
June 2022	£50	January 2023	£100
July 2022	£150	February 2023	£50
September 2022	£150	March 2023 Final payment due	£50
October 2022	£50	Total	£800
November 2022	£50		

Please be aware that if your son / daughter no longer wants to be a part of the trip, or their behaviour dictates this, then refunds will not be made unless we/they can find someone to replace them. Even if a replacement is found, passport details will need to be amended and additional costs may be incurred.

To secure the trip I will need a signed reply slip as soon as possible and a deposit of £100 per person **by Friday 17th May 2022**. This will allow us to book the cheapest flights. Forms and monies should be returned, in a clearly marked envelope with the name of the trip and the student's name, to Mrs H Brown at reception before morning registration by this date. At this stage we ask for cash or a **cheque, which should be made payable to Pensby High School** with student's name and form written on the reverse. Once we have a list of students you will be able to make payments online.

The school budget is such that there is not the ability for the school to fund school trips, without having a detrimental impact on the funds available for teaching and learning across the school, therefore regular payments are required to allow trips to happen. The money given by parents/carers is used to pay for transport, entrance fees and tickets etc. that allow the trip to take place. Money is not held by the school and it is passed to a third party.

For the avoidance of any doubt the school does not provide refunds if your child is unable to go on the trip for any reason. If you or your child's actions cause them not to be able to go on the trip (for example not returning signed permission by the required deadline, being excluded from school, being told their behaviour in school is such that they can no longer go on the trip) then the school will not provide a refund of any monies paid. A requirement for a foreign trip is that we have to have insurance to cover any eventuality; this will be taken out via an independent company to cover the duration of the trip.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact me on the number above or by email to steare@psf.wirral.sch.uk.

Yours sincerely

S Teare

Mrs S Teare

Teacher of Modern Foreign Languages

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I understand that by paying the £100 non-refundable deposit I will be committing to the trip and agreeing to the monthly payment arrangements. If I decide at a certain point that my son/daughter no longer wants to attend or their behaviour dictates this, and I can't find anyone to replace them, then I will not be entitled to a refund.

Student Name..... Form

Parental Signature Date

*Please ensure deposits/reports are returned to Mrs H Brown by **Friday 17th May 2022**.*