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Foundation Trust Grammar School

Dear Parent/Carer,

## **VISIT TO SPAIN JULY 2011**

We are planning a visit for Year 7 pupils to northern Spain, which will take place from Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July to Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2011. The visit is part of the International Arts Festival, in which all Year 7 pupils participate during the Summer Term.

Pupils will be based in Suances, where full board accommodation will be provided in a three star hotel. We shall leave Sale Grammar by coach early on the morning of Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July to travel to Stansted Airport and return late evening of Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July.

The visit is intended to provide pupils with an enjoyable opportunity to practise and extend their linguistic knowledge and skills in an authentic social and cultural context, and to develop some of the themes of the Arts Festival, including international cuisine, music and dance, art and artists, together with an insight into the diversity of European culture.

There are various activities planned which include a full day in Santillana del Mar visiting the Altamira caves, famous for their prehistoric cave paintings. Although the caves are no longer open to the general public, there is an excellent visitors' centre which includes a full scale replica of the caves themselves. There will also be a full day to Bilbao, the capital of the Basque region, where we shall visit the Arts Museum and the spectacular Guggenheim. There is also an afternoon at the Zoo planned and a boat trip around the bay.

The cost of the visit is £480.00 and the expectation of the school is that you will make full contribution. However, if you are unable to fully contribute you are invited to contact the Business Manager in confidence before Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January. The cost Includes coach and air travel to and from Santander, full board accommodation for four days (three nights) and travel insurance, along with all activities and entrance fees.

The payment schedule is as follows: **a non refundable deposit of £200 is required by 21<sup>st</sup> January 2011**, which will allow us to confirm our booking with the travel company. A **second payment of £100** will be payable **on or before 28<sup>th</sup> February 2011** and a **final payment of £180 on or before 18<sup>th</sup> April 2011**.

Please note that we require a minimum of 30 students to enable us to proceed with the visit.

If you would like your son/daughter to participate in this visit, please complete the attached reply slip and return no later than Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January to Student Services. A decision will then be made on the viability of the trip, if the decision is to proceed then the trip will appear on your ParentPay account and you can make payment by 21<sup>st</sup> January. Please note that the trip will not appear on your ParentPay account until a decision has been made.

**Your son/daughter will require his/her own passport and EHIC (European Health Insurance Card) in order for them to travel.**

We reserve the right to withdraw the place if the behaviour of any student gives cause for concern.

If you wish your son or daughter to participate in the above trip please complete the attached reply slip and return it to Student Services. Payments are to be made via ParentPay.

Yours sincerely,

**Mrs C Newsham**  
**Head of Modern Foreign Languages**

**Mrs A McPartland**  
**Business Manager**