

Essential Information

Accommodation

We will be staying at the Old Abbey Hotel, Lo-Reninge, Belgium. Rooms are basic but suit our needs and location is excellent. There are areas at the back for playing football and other games. Please find a link to the hotel below.

<http://www.oudeabdij.com/>

Overnight Ferry

Please can you ensure that students have a small overnight bag to take onto the ferry with them, as we will not unload the main baggage from the bus. Therefore, students should have some nightwear and toiletries, plus any clean clothes in a small rucksack to take onto the ferry.

Meals

All meals are provided, *except for lunch on Friday 27 April and Friday 4 May* when we are travelling to and from Hull. Therefore a packed lunch for the journey down is recommended. We will stop for toilet breaks at service stations, where lunch/snacks can be bought on the return journey, so a small amount of sterling will be required.

Passports

All youngsters going have to have a current, up to date British Passport with at least 30 days left on it.

If your child has a different passport a visa waiver from the British Council may be needed. They only supply them two weeks before the first day of the trip, so you need to apply about a month before. If this applies to your child can you please contact me on my email address:

ashleigh.kennedy@jamesgillespies.edin.sch.uk

Staffing

Miss Ashleigh Kennedy (Curricular Leader Social Subjects) + 4 other members of staff.

We have had many staff volunteering for this trip. This shows the popularity and significance of the Trenches trip. Staffing will be confirmed in due course and will be in attendance at the Information Evening in April 2018.

Code of Conduct

Many of the sites we visit are cemeteries and memorials, we expect students to be respectful of their surroundings and behave in an appropriate manner.

Behaviour

We want the trip to be enjoyable for everyone involved. The highest standards of behaviour are expected at all times on the trip. Cooperation with teachers is essential. As we are in loco parentis, normal school rules apply.

Spending Money

Students normally like to have some spending to buy small souvenirs or gifts. We normally recommend an amount between 50 and 100 Euros.

Wellies

One of the sites we visit (Sanctuary Wood) can be very wet and muddy, even if the weather has been good. If students want to fully explore the trenches here, they will need wellies. It's best if wellies are placed in a named, plastic bag, so that they can be left on the bus and replaced after the visit.

Emergency Contact Details

The school should be contacted in the first instance – 0131 4471900, and out of hours, the emergency number will be shared at the meeting in April. One of the Senior Management team will have this phone at all times while the trip is away.

European Health Insurance Card

If students have these, please ensure that you bring it along with your passport. If not, please apply for one using the link below. They are free and mean that any minor treatment is free or at a reduced cost.

<https://www.gov.uk/european-health-insurance-card>