



November 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

Thank you for your patience and understanding whilst we continue to organise the New York trip 2022. We are becoming increasingly confident that our trip will be able to go ahead next Summer. This month sees the UK being able to visit America again with many international travel restrictions being lifted. Whilst July 2022 is still 9 months away, we will continue to monitor the situation very carefully and update you with any further information where we can.

As explained in our previous correspondence, there will be two trips to New York in July 2022 to accommodate the large numbers of students wanting to come with us. In total, we are taking 128 students to New York across two trips which are a week apart. The dates of trips are:

Trip 1: Friday 15th – Tuesday 19th July 2022

Trip 2: Friday 22nd – Tuesday 26th July 2022

Current Year 13s who have had their trip to New York rescheduled twice will automatically be placed on Trip 1. We ask that students ensure they are available for both dates where possible as the number of students we can take on each one is fixed. We will work closely with students to ensure they are all allocated places with their friends. Please note that we have 64 spaces on each trip, and we will require your support and understanding in making this work for everyone involved.

Next steps for the trip:

- Over the next couple of months, please ensure that student passports are valid for travel to the US. Please check the expiry date and apply for a new passport if necessary. Students will need to obtain an ESTA visa for travel to America. These are done online and cost approximately \$14. We will write to you when you need to complete this. If you do not have a passport issued from the United Kingdom, please check this website in the FAQs for countries who are eligible for an ESTA visa to see if you can apply. [Frequently Asked Questions about the Visa Waiver Program \(VWP\) and the Electronic System for Travel Authorization \(ESTA\) | U.S. Customs and Border Protection \(cbp.gov\)](#) If the country where your passport was issued does not appear, please get in touch with us and we can help you apply for the relevant Visa.

St Mary's College
Cranbrook Avenue
Hull, HU6 7TN

Tel. 01482 851136
Fax. 01482 804522
Email. admin@smchull.org

 @SMCHull
 @SMCHull
www.smchull.org

CEO
Mr G Fitzpatrick

Head of School
Mrs M Stead



- In January, we will begin to collect copies of passports, so we have the relevant information to send to the tour company. This will be a significant undertaking with 128 students where a copy of each passport must be collected, checked, details recorded and sent to the tour company. Please support us in ensuring passports are valid when we call for them in early 2022. This will give us plenty of time to rectify any issues should there be any.
- At the same time as requesting student passports, we will send out a survey for students to:
 - ✓ State if they have any availability issues for either of the trip dates.
 - ✓ Provide a list of students they want to be on the same trip with.Once we have this information, we will be able to confirm which trip students will be on.

In Spring 2022, we will also be able to begin planning the schedule for trip which we aim to share with you during a parents / carers meeting after Easter. We intend to meet parents / carers twice before we depart so we are able to share all relevant information and you have an opportunity to meet the staff on the trip.

We are aware of the uncertainties around Covid-19, not just for group travel, but also for individuals. We are in the process of reviewing the best insurance possible, so we have peace of mind as both a school group, and as individuals. Please be assured that whilst the trip is already insured, we will explore all options and work to have the most effective insurance in place. All details will be shared with you at a later date.

Finally, thank you to those who have been following the payment plan over the past few months. Our experience tells us that paying smaller amounts on a more frequent basis is much more effective than leaving large amounts of the balance to be paid within close proximity to departure. If students have recently secured a place on the trip, please ensure you are aware of the date of the final balance and we would encourage you to make monthly payments where possible.

Friday 23rd July - £250 of the trip total paid
Friday 10th September - £350 of the trip total paid
Friday 8th October - £450 of the trip total paid
Friday 12th November - £550 of the trip total paid
Friday 10th December - £650 of the trip total paid
Friday 14th January - £750 of the trip total paid
Friday 11th February - £850 of the trip total paid
Friday 11th March - £950 of the trip total paid
Friday 15th April - £1,075 paid (full amount)

Once again, thank you for your support with the New York trip 2022. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact my colleagues Mr Charlton jcharlton@smchull.org or Miss Burden lburden@smchull.org. We will be in touch with the next steps of the trip in January 2022.

Yours sincerely,

R Flanagan

Miss R Flanagan
Vice Principal