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Dear Parents/Carers

Year 8 Enrichment Trip to Amiens, France – Visits to Amiens Zoo, Les Hortillonnages boats, La Chocolaterie de Beussent, Goat farm tour, pizza and bowling evening and full day in Parc Astérix Theme Park.

As part of curriculum enrichment week, Houlton School is offering an opportunity for Year 8 pupils to take part in a five day visit to France, leaving school on **Monday 8 July 2024 and returning on Friday 12 July 2024.**

The tour provider that we are using for the trip, Rondo Travel is our new partner for residentials, and they have a track record of successful trips across the globe. Rondo Travel provide fully guided tours with excellent itineraries. Rondo have sourced the best hostels and excursions to include in our itineraries, as well as some of the country's most reliable partners.

The cost of the trip to France will be **£596 per person**. This includes all meals, transport, insurance, the services of a specialist tour guide and entry into all museums and sites (including visits to Amiens Zoo, Les Hortillonnages boats, La Chocolaterie de Beussent, Goat farm tour, pizza and bowling evening and full day in Parc Astérix Theme Park). Pupils will also need to bring some personal spending money with them.

Accommodation will be in top-of-the range Amiens hostel, and pupils will have ensuite bathroom and toilet facilities in each room.

Please be aware that we may have to split the groups in different hostel(s) of the same high standards, and stagger our itineraries due to group sizes. We will try our best to accommodate everyone within their groups of friends but staff ultimately will make the final decision on room allocations. We will ensure that all pupils meet up for the day in Parc Astérix Theme Park.

Parents/carers of pupils who book the trip will be invited to an evening presentation event before departure where the travel company and I will be available to answer your questions.

Please note that as this is an enrichment visit, the trip includes a number of 'remote supervision' opportunities where pupils are given independent time away from supervising adults to bond with their friends and be out of direct contact with adults. For example in Amiens when shopping in the town centre and for the day at Parc Astérix. Whilst adults are on hand at meeting points and available to be contacted by mobile phone during these periods, if you feel your child will not be comfortable or capable of participating in remote supervision with other pupils you should not book a place on this visit and instead choose one of the in-school



activities during curriculum enrichment week.

We will be travelling by coach and going by ferry to Amiens, France. Ferries are departing from Dover and Calais. Below is a list of some of the activities we have arranged with Rondo Travel:

- A guided tour of World-famous Amiens cathedral
- A visit of Amiens zoo, home of fauna and flora from 5 continents
- Free time in the beautiful town of Le Touquet, home of the French president and his *première dame*
- A boat trip at Les Hortillonnages punts along river Somme
- A visit to La ferme d'autrefois Goat farm and a tour of Amien's most famous chocolaterie
- A full day at Parc Astérix Theme Park
- A pizza and bowling evening in the centre of Amiens

All meals are included. We will have a continental breakfast at the hotel every morning, a packed lunch during the day and a hot evening meal at the hostel, with one meal in Amiens' bowling alley. We will also be served food with our ferry crossing.

Contract, terms and conditions

A place will only be allocated to a pupil once the contract has been signed and returned to school and the deposit has been paid via ParentPay. Payment alone will not reserve a place for a pupil.

Please find attached the contract, terms and conditions for this visit. Please sign and retain the cream copy for your records. The pink copy must be returned to school immediately to secure your child's place (payment of the deposit signifies a provisional reservation only – if the contract is not received immediately, the place will be forfeited and offered to another child on the waiting list).

Please note that there are limited places available and, therefore, these will be allocated on first come, first served basis. Once we are at maximum capacity, ParentPay will automatically remove the visit from your account so you will no longer see it as available for payment. Please see the attached contract for specific details of payment schedules, terms and conditions.

If you would like any further information about the trip then please email or telephone me.

Yours faithfully



Mr Matthieu Raffy

Subject Team Leader: Modern Languages