



23rd May 2022

Dear Respected Parent/Guardians

Assalaamu alaikum - Peace be with you

RE: PGL Residential Trip to France 2023

I am pleased to be able to offer your child the opportunity to take part in the following overseas trip to France. This trip is for all pupils currently in Years 8 and 9. There are 44 places available, allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Below we have outlined key information about where we will be staying, dates for the trip, draft itinerary, and costing.

Centre: **PGL Château de Grande Romaine (Paris)**

<https://www.pgl.co.uk/Files/Templates/Designs/PGLCore/res/swf/virtual-tour/chateau-de-grande-romaine/tour.html>

- Depart UK: **26th June 2023** Return to UK: **30th June 2023**
- Cost per person **£690**
- Mode of travel: **Coach -Ferry or Eurotunnel Crossing**

Included in this price is:

- Return travel from school
- A full daily programme of activities (Market visit, visit of **Sacré Coeur** and **Montmartre**, full day at theme park "**Parc Astérix**", visit of **Eiffel Tower**, boat cruise on the **river Seine**, Paris highlights by coach...)
- A full programme of evening entertainment
- Full board and accommodation
- Full comprehensive travel insurance

Château de Grande Romaine – Our accommodation

Just 20 miles from Paris, the beautiful Château de Grande Romaine is a great location if you are looking to explore France and experience the sights and sounds of its capital.

Whether it's a trip to the local market, the top of the Eiffel Tower, a boat cruise along the Seine or a visit to the theme park "Parc Astérix", it's a fantastic cultural adventure for your child.

And what better place to unwind after a busy day exploring than in the grounds of the Château de Grande Romaine. There are acres of space to relax in. There are also boules pitches, a cinema room, basketball courts and sports pitches.

The site is very secure and designed intentionally for large school trips of this nature.

Meals at Château de Grande Romaine are freshly prepared and designed to provide all the nutrition your child needs, including plenty of fresh fruit, vegetables and salads as well as plenty of carbohydrate for energy! PGL like to provide a balance between foods which are familiar and opportunities to try dishes with a distinctly French flavour too. There is always a vegetarian option available. PGL are familiar with most dietary requirements, so if your child has any allergies or a special diet for any reason, they will be catered for as long as we are aware. There are also vending machines and a small retail shop on site.



The centre was formerly a hotel and offers a good standard of accommodation for groups, with 4 – 7 bedded rooms with bunk beds and ensuite bathrooms. The Party Leader and accompanying adults will be roomed close to the children. All accommodation is adjacent to the main château building within the centre grounds.

The only additional cost will be pocket money, passport and meals en route.

The trip will be led by Mrs Cusimano in conjunction with PGL Travel Ltd, a first-class operator with a solid reputation for organising school trips - a reputation built up from over 60 years' experience in the school travel business. All PGL centres are regularly assessed by the relevant regulatory bodies within the industry and are operated to the highest standards. **They are backed by ABTA membership and are ATOL licensed ensuring that all payments made are fully insured.**

Why take part in a residential visit abroad?

There are significant benefits to be had from a residential visit. It affords the opportunity for the pupils to succeed in a new challenge, enjoying the benefits of increased self-confidence and the forming of new relationships both within their peer group and the wider range of people they will meet whilst on the trip. It also offers a different cultural experience and the opportunity to develop a new awareness and sense of achievement. All students study GCSE French as a language and visiting the country will give them a greater understanding of the culture.

Please do note: We know that France has secular rules in place about the wearing of religious dress and items in public buildings or whilst undertaking public service as an employee of the government. **This does not impact our students in any way. They can wear religious dress for all the activities we are participating in without any fear of discrimination for the entirety of the journey.**

Mobile phones will be allowed on the trip, but use will be limited, and the school will not be responsible for any data or call charges. We shall be taking two school phones, enabling us to contact home if at all necessary and recommend pupils do not bring their personal devices. We will also be in regular contact with school and post updates via Twitter.

Information about paying for the trip

The total cost of the trip is £690

If you would like your child to take part in the trip, please detach, complete, and return the form below to the school office, together with a non-refundable initial deposit of £100 by 31st May 2022, payable on ParentPay.

Further payments will be required:

30 th June 2022	£100
30 th July 2022	£100
30 th September 2022	£100
31 st October 2022	£100
30 th November 2022	£100
31 st December 2022	£90

All pupils travelling to France require a valid passport (and visa if applicable).

We recommend that you organise your child's passport well in advance as it can take several months for passports to be issued, especially at peak holiday times.

All information you require is available on the [Passport Office website](#).

- Full UK Passport - Applications can now be [completed online](#). It is also possible to obtain an application form from the Post Office, although this is a more expensive option.
- If your child has an EU passport, we will need the proof of settled status: [View and prove your immigration status - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
- If your child does not have a British or EU passport, you will need to apply for a visa (This will be an extra cost) : [Applying for a French visa in the United-Kingdom - France in the UK \(ambafrance.org\)](#)

Brexit

Here is the latest Government advice on travel to Europe following the withdrawal of the UK from the European Union.

New rules apply for travel to Europe as of 1 January 2021.

- **You'll need to have at least 6 months left on an adult or child passport to travel to most countries in Europe (not including Ireland).**
- If you renewed your current passport before the previous one expired, extra months may have been added to its expiry date. Any extra months on your passport over 10 years may not count towards the 6 months needed.
- You'll need to [renew your passport](#) before travelling if you do not have enough time left on your passport. However, all designs of British passports that meet the new rules will be equally acceptable for travel.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me via info@egslough.staracademies.org.

Please see below an information sheet provided by PGL about our place of visit.

[Chateau-de-Grande-Romaine-Parent-Info-Sheet.pdf \(pgl.co.uk\)](#)

Yours sincerely,

Mrs F. Cusimano

DDoL MFL



Student Reply Form

PGL Trip to France 26th June - 30th June 2023

Pupils full name: _____

Year and Tutor group: _____

Read and tick each box to confirm acceptance of the terms of the trip:

- I would like to reserve a place for my daughter on the PGL Overseas trip to **Château de Grande Romaine (Paris)** and have paid the **£100 on Parent Pay**.
- I have provided a photocopy of my child's UK passport / EU passport with proof of settled status or have sent pictures of both to info@egslough.staracademies.org.
- I understand that I am responsible for ensuring my daughter has a valid Passport and if necessary, the correct Visa documentation.
- I understand that once deposits have been paid to PGL they are non-refundable, and that terms and conditions will apply.
- I recognise that in the event of failure to pay for my daughters' place it may be reallocated.
- I understand that a parent must attend any pre-trip parent information evening (dates will be sent out in advance)

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Name of parent (print): _____

(Parent/guardian)

Relationship to above named pupil: _____

Please return this slip to Mrs Cusimano by Wednesday 8th June