



16th September 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

A Level Art, Photography and Textiles Trip to Amsterdam (21st - 24th March 2025)

The Art department / Design & Technology Faculty are running an A Level Art, Photography and Textiles Residential Trip to Amsterdam from Friday 21st March to Monday 24th March 2025. This is aimed at giving students first-hand experience of global art work and a cultural experience that should be beneficial to their personal development as an individual. The research on the trip will also produce extremely valuable resources to help with preparation for students' A Level final examinations and with their historical and critical studies, both of which are essential elements of the course.

We plan to fly (return) from Leeds Bradford airport to Amsterdam. Our base for this four-day (three night) trip will be the popular Meininger Hotel, on the outskirts of Amsterdam, with half board accommodation.

The following draft itinerary includes some of the highlights of the visit.

Friday 21st March 2025

- Meet at Leeds Bradford Airport (times TBC)
- Flight to Amsterdam
- Evening Meal at Meininger

Saturday 22nd March 2025

- Visit to Amsterdam Van Gogh Museum
- Visit to Stedelijk Museum
- Evening Meal at Meininger

Sunday 23rd March 2025

- 4-hour guided city tour.
- Visit to Vondelpark
- Flea market
- Evening meal at Meininger

Monday 24th March 2025

- Visit to Rijks Museum
- Sightseeing and shopping
- Return to hotel to collect bags and fly back to Leeds Bradford
- Arrive back at Leeds Bradford airport (TBC)

The cost of the trip is expected to be **£730**, though the tour company has recommended that we **build in an extra £50 contingency** at this stage, just in case air fares have risen when they come to book the flights. Therefore, we are advertising the cost as **£730-£780** and will confirm the final amount when flights have been secured. This will include all travel costs throughout the trip, all gallery entrance fees, insurance, hotel accommodation, breakfast and evening meals whilst in Amsterdam. It does not include spending money, the cost of a passport, lunch when in

Amsterdam or meals on the outward and return journeys. You are also asked to take responsibility for your child's travel to and from Leeds Bradford airport.

Students who are in receipt of the 16-19 Bursary Fund may be able to access some financial assistance for this trip (if applicable, please see Mrs Willis).

Please note that students will **require their own passport** for this trip. This must be valid until at least 25th June 2025 to meet entry requirements.

The school party insurance is comprehensive and covers personal accident, medical treatment, loss or damage to personal effects, cancellation due to unforeseen and unavoidable circumstances, and other standard risks. A copy of the policy will be made available at a later date to parents/carers of students participating in the trip.

Those students wishing to be part of this trip should bring the completed slip (see bottom of attached form) to the **Finance Office** by **Thursday 26th September 2024**. By this same date, please also pay an initial **deposit of £170 using the online payment system** (the initial deposit amount is based on tour company requirements and is needed to secure our booking). If this short deadline causes particular problems, please contact me directly as soon as possible. Likewise, if you are unable to use the online payment system, please contact the Finance Office for assistance or to make alternative arrangements.

To help spread the cost of the trip, four further instalments (using the online payment system) will then be due as follows:

23 rd October 2024	£150
23 rd November 2024	£150
23 rd December 2024	£150
23 rd January 2025	£110-£160

VERY IMPORTANT: May I stress that should your child take up a place on the trip, this will be taken as a firm commitment. In the event of a student withdrawing from the party (or leaving the school before the trip departs), **a refund of monies already paid can normally only be given if cancellation is covered by the terms of the insurance**. Should the trip be over-subscribed, names will be "drawn out of a hat" and deposits returned, where appropriate.

Finally, for Health and Safety reasons, students who have a record of poor behavior or course attendance in school may not be permitted to participate in this trip.

There will, of course, be a meeting for all parents/carers and students concerned shortly before the trip departs. In the meantime, if you have any immediate questions regarding the visit, please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Yours faithfully



Mrs H Prince
Area Leader: Art & Photography