

Dear Parent/Guardian

Re: Year 7 and 8 German Study Visit to Bad Marienberg, Rheinland, 2-6th July 2012

Following the success of the Year 7 and 8 study visit to Germany last year, I am writing to inform you that we will be running a similar trip from 2-6th July 2012 for Year 7 pupils and those who have recently begun German as their chosen language in Year 8.

The trip is intended to offer pupils in their first year of German studies an introduction to Germany, its culture, and people. We intend to take pupils to the beautiful Rhineland Valley region of Germany, where we will be based in a lovely youth hostel in the Bad Marienberg. During the five-day trip we will visit the beautiful town of Cochem, a famous German wine region on the river Mosel, where pupils will experience the chair lift. Pupils will also have a guided tour of the fairytale castle, Burg Eltz, experience a cruise down the river Rhine and explore the town of Rudesheim, taking in a delightful museum of rather eccentric and unique musical instruments. We will visit Cologne and its cathedral as well as the Lindt chocolate museum and factory. Pupils will be required to produce a project booklet, recording what they have seen and experienced. They will have time to do this each day after the evening meal in the hostel.

The total cost of the trip will be between £295 and £310 per pupil dependent on final numbers. It includes all travel on an executive coach, the ferry fare, accommodation, meals from the evening of arrival to the morning of our departure, entrance charges and insurance. The total cost consists of a charge for board and lodging as well as a voluntary contribution for transport and entrance fees. If insufficient pupils are prepared to pay the total cost including the voluntary contribution, the trip may have to be cancelled for all pupils. If you are entitled to financial support please contact the school in confidence before applying for the trip.

Your son/daughter will need an individual EHIC Card (applications can be made online or forms are available from the Post Office) and he/she will also need a valid individual passport (again forms are available from the Post Office). Please advise us if your child does not have an EU passport. Please check the expiry date of the passport which should still be valid at least six months after the date of the trip.

If you would like your son/daughter to participate in this trip, please complete the attached form and return it to the appropriate box outside the Finance Office with a **non-refundable** deposit of £50 by **Wednesday 2nd November. It is important that this deadline is met.** All cheques should be made payable to Beaumont School and you should ensure that your child's name and form are written clearly on the reverse. Alternatively you can make payment over the internet using our online payment system (NB: You must still return the attached reply slip to school). A second payment of £100 is due by Wednesday 7th December 2011 and the balance by Friday 16th March 2010. We are happy to accept smaller instalments or to discuss a different schedule for parent who may find these dates difficult – please contact the Finance Office in confidence to discuss. Could I also ask you to note that School Tour Operators do not differ from other travel companies with regards to cancellations and that cancellation fees will apply. I would like to draw your attention to the school Trips and Visits Policy, which requires that pupils participating in school visits have a good record of behaviour at school.

If places are oversubscribed and it proves necessary to create a selection process, pupils will be informed. In the event of your son/daughter not getting a place, the deposit will of course not be processed. I appreciate that it is in many ways very early to ask Year 7 pupils to decide about a trip which will take place next July, however we have to book our Enrichment Week trips very far in advance in order to secure the best accommodation possible for a large group. Some of you may feel nervous if this will be your first time away from home, but I would like to assure you that you will have a great week!

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Mrs S R Lutz
Head of Modern Languages
Germany Trip Coordinator