



26 June 2026

Dear Parents,

**Y9(10) Study visit to Krakow, May half term holiday Saturday 29 May - Tuesday 1 June 2027**

We are once again running our much loved and very popular Year 10 history trip during the 2027 May half-term holiday and, ever since deciding to rotate the annual trip between Berlin and Krakow in 2025, the destination for 2027 is Krakow. The dates of the trip are Saturday 29 May - Tuesday 1 June 2027. The visit will be in direct support of the GCSE units on Germany 1890-1945 and the Cold War in Europe studied in Years 10 and 11.

The visit will enable students to see first-hand some of the key places they will be learning about and will enhance their understanding of the topics. The trip will include, amongst other visits: A walking tour of the key sights of Krakow with a particular focus on the Holocaust. For example, we will visit the Schindler Museum, Kazimierz, Podgorze (Wartime Ghetto) and the remnants of Plaszow Concentration Camp. The trip will also include an excursion to Auschwitz-Birkenau.

Given the extremely serious nature of the trip, we are also going to visit Nowa Huta (Cold War), the incredible Wieliczka Salt Mines, along with the magnificent Wawel Royal Castle in order to balance things out. We are also planning on taking the pupils out for dinner twice and to enjoy a game of bowling. All tours and entry fees are included in the tour price.

The tour is organised by NST, a well-established educational travel company with which we have worked successfully for many years. We will be accompanied by specialist NST guides for the duration of our visit to Krakow. The group will fly to and from Krakow and will stay at a centrally located hotel which caters specially for large school groups. Breakfast will be provided at the hotel for the duration, along with an evening meal for one night, but students will need to buy their own lunches during the trip. Please also note every child will require a passport that has a minimum 3 months validity from the end of the trip (expiring no earlier than 1 September 2027) and a Global/European Health Insurance Card. These can be obtained free of charge through the NHS website [here](#). If your child holds dual nationality then please ensure that both passports have the required validity and submit both. Please also note that visas may be required for some non UK passport holders, please ensure that you apply for these sooner rather than later as they can take a long time to process.

**The total cost of the trip will be £975-£1040**, which includes all travel, tours, admission fees, accommodation, [insurance](#) and meals excluding lunches. Please note, this cost may increase due to the current changes in fuel prices. This will be communicated to you if this is the case. Once attendees, and thus the trip, are confirmed we will provide you with a payment schedule to spread the cost of the trip, as we appreciate that you may also be paying for other trips and activities. In line with the school's charging policy, parents are reminded that school charity funds exist to assist families whose financial

circumstances would otherwise prevent their son/daughter from participating. Application must be made in writing to the Deputy Headteacher, Mrs Louise Walder, outlining the reasons why support is required, as soon as possible and at the latest by the deadline below.

This trip is open to all our Year 10 History students, but please be advised that we only have a maximum capacity of 50 students. To register your child's interest, please complete the form [here](#) by **Friday 3 July 2026**. Should the level of interest exceed the places available (50), students will be allocated to the visit via a ballot.

Once confirmed, we will then request an **initial deposit of £200 to be paid via ParentPay by 9am Friday 10 July 2026**. If you need a copy of your activation details or are unable to access ParentPay, please email [parentpay@swbgs.com](mailto:parentpay@swbgs.com).

The school's behaviour policy will apply at all times on the study visit (including free time). This is a Category C trip, as defined by the school's Trips and Visits policy and as such it is imperative that students follow instructions from teaching staff and the specialist NST guides. Alcohol consumption, smoking and vaping are prohibited and students are prohibited from entering accommodation areas of the opposite sex. Personal music players should not be brought or used whilst on study visits.

Please note that the deposit is a commitment to pay the full cost of the trip. If your child withdraws from the trip, we will endeavour to find a replacement to take their place, otherwise you will be required to pay the full cost.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at school using [parents@swbgs.com](mailto:parents@swbgs.com).

Yours faithfully

Peter Mead  
Head of History