



11 September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 12 Creative Writing, Literature & Art History in Venice 5-8 March 2027

We are once again running our very popular Creative Writing, Literature & Art History Trip to Venice and I would like to offer your child the opportunity to join us.

The trip is open to **all Year 12 students** with an interest in creative writing, regardless of their subject choices, but it is particularly relevant to those studying A Level English or interested in art history.

The aim of the trip is to enable students to produce a portfolio of writing inspired by the history, art and ambience of this unique city. We will visit, and write at, a range of sites including Santa Maria della Salute, the Rialto market, the Accademia art gallery, Piazza San Marco, the Doge's Palace, the Frari church, the Jewish ghetto and the Island of Murano. In addition to writing, we will explore Venice's rich literary heritage, with a focus on Byron and Shelley, whose poetry students study for A Level English, together with Shakespeare's *Othello* and *The Merchant of Venice*; from an Art perspective, we will visit the Accademia Gallery and Doge's Palace, and see a number of significant works by Venetian artists. Students can use the portfolio of writing as the basis of an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), an independent project which many of our Year 12 students undertake, and which is highly regarded by universities during the application process; alternatively, the literature and writers studied during the trip, Venetian Art, or the history of Venice itself can also be used as subjects for an EPQ.

Leaving early on Friday 5 March, we will fly BA from Heathrow to Venice and stay 3 nights at the Hotel Villa Rosa in Cannaregio, returning on the evening of Monday 8 March.

The total cost of the trip, which includes a charge for board and lodgings as well as a voluntary contribution towards travel, admission fees and [insurance](#) (excluding lunches) will be **£610-675** depending on the number of students travelling.

To maintain an effective staff-to-student ratio, places on the trip are limited; if you would like to book one for your child, please pay an **initial deposit of £100 by Sunday 27 September 2026** via Parentpay. If you need a copy of your activation details, or are unable to access Parentpay, please



email parentpay@swbgs.com. Please note that this 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. If your child is unable to travel once full payment has been made, a refund of recoverable costs will be made.

Bursary Funds exist to assist Sixth Form Pupils with their studies. In order to assess the requirement as fully as possible, students seeking such support are to discuss their whole year requirements with their Sixth Form Support Officer before applying.



Once the deadline has passed, I will be able to confirm the final amount and a payment schedule to spread the cost of the trip October - February. Parents of A Level English students should note that we are running another residential trip in July 2026 related to Romantic Poetry which students study as part of the course - please see the letter linked in this week's school email. Please be aware that this trip overlaps with both the Geography field trip and A Level Dance examinations, in which students in Year 12 are sometimes involved. Students have been advised of arrangements regarding this overlap.

If you have any questions, please email me via parents@swbgs.com.

Yours faithfully

James Lofthouse
Literacy Co-ordinator