



11 September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 7 Study visit to Windsor Castle, Friday 4 December 2026

After an exciting first couple of weeks of History at Borlase, we are pleased to be writing to announce an upcoming Year 7 study visit to Windsor Castle.

The visit is an opportunity to enrich the student's study of *The Development of Church, State and Society in Medieval Britain 1066-1509* and, in particular, castles. Windsor Castle, an official residence of the monarch, is the oldest and largest inhabited castle in the world and, since the building of a wooden fortress at the time of William the Conqueror, the Castle has been transformed over the centuries into a splendid palace, while still retaining much evidence of its turbulent past.

Furthermore, the Borlase History Department has a unique connection with Windsor Castle. For the past seven years or so, in conjunction with an annual in-house Year 7 castle building competition, we have had the privilege of being able to display some of our best models at their Education Centre and this will be the fourth time that we have taken an entire year group to the castle. The visit will provide students with the opportunity to see first-hand some of the key features of castles that they have been learning about in class, helping to consolidate and deepen their understanding of the topics covered.

Transport and Itinerary

We are travelling to Windsor by coach, aiming to leave at 8.45am and return to school by 3.30pm at the end of the school day. Your child will require a water bottle and a packed lunch. They will need to wear their school uniform and a warm coat. Everyone will be asked to put any baggage through an x-ray machine and walk through a metal detector arch. Sharp objects such as scissors will be removed so please ensure these are not in pencil cases.

Spending money

There should be some time to pay a visit to one of the shops within Windsor Castle and so pupils may want to bring a small amount for any souvenirs; we would suggest £10 maximum.

Cost

A voluntary contribution of **£18** is requested to cover the cost of tickets, transport and [insurance](#). You will appreciate that if we are unable to cover the cost of the trip it will not take place. Please make payment via [ParentPay](#) by **9am Friday 2 October 2026**. If you need a copy of your activation details or are unable to access ParentPay, please email parentpay@swbgs.com.

In line with the school's charging policy, parents are reminded that financial support may be available to assist families whose financial circumstances would otherwise prevent their child from participating. Applications must be made in writing to bursar@swbgs.com, outlining the reasons why support is required, as soon as possible and latest by the deadline.

This is a Category B trip, as defined by the school's Trips and Visits policy. As such, payment for the trip on ParentPay is taken as confirmation of consent for your child to attend and that the contact and medical details that the school has on record for you are up-to-date and correct. Students who require medication such as EpiPens or inhalers must carry their own emergency medication with them at all times on trips.

If your child has a peripatetic music lesson on this day, they should remember to inform the teacher in good time. Should you have any further questions, then please feel free to contact us via parents@swbgs.com.

Yours faithfully

Miss Kendall and Mr Mead
The History Department