



18 September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

## **A Level trip to Berlin - Friday 29 January 2027 - Monday 1 February 2027**

We are offering our Year 12 students the opportunity to travel to Berlin over the first weekend of February 2027. Primarily this is a German A level language trip, however, those studying history are very welcome to join the trip as an interesting insight into the city. The trip has been planned to be over a weekend to minimise the disruption to the students' learning and there are a maximum of 20 places available.

The accommodation in Berlin will be in a city centre hotel. Students will be sharing single-sex, multi-bedded private rooms. Breakfast will be provided, but the students will need Euros to buy lunch and dinner each day. We would suggest £30-40 a day. Everything else (flights including baggage, all transport, including to and from the airport, excursions and entry into sights, accommodation, breakfast and [insurance](#)) will be included.

This trip offers students a valuable opportunity to bring their A Level German and History studies to life. By immersing themselves in the German language and culture, they will build confidence in speaking and listening in authentic, everyday situations.

While German language immersion is the key focus, Berlin is a living textbook for history. Experiencing the capital's iconic landmarks first-hand brings core A-Level topics out of the classroom and into real life, giving you unique perspectives and concrete examples for your coursework and exams:

- **Cold War & Reunification:** Stand at Checkpoint Charlie, walk along the preserved sections of the Berlin Wall, and pass through the iconic Brandenburg Gate.
- **Modern Democracy & 20th-Century Legacy:** Explore modern democratic governance inside the Reichstag Building and delve into deep 20th-century history at the Berlin Story Bunker.
- **Visual Arts & Heritage:** Study vibrant street art along the open-air East Side Gallery and explore world-class collections across Museumsinsel and the Humboldt Forum.
- **Architectural Masterpieces:** Study classical and modern architectural landmarks, including the Französischer Dom, Sankt Hedwigs-Kathedrale, and the majestic Berliner Dom.
- **Immersive Experiences:** Step beyond the textbook to experience contemporary German life in bustling urban hubs like central Stadtmitte.
- **Culinary Culture:** Sample regional flavors at the vibrant Markthalle Neun and indulge in artisanal treats at the world-famous Rausch Chocolate Shop.

Experiencing these historic and artistic landmarks in person provides real context that makes your child's A-Level revision far more engaging, memorable, and meaningful.

Beyond the academic benefits, the trip encourages independence, broadens students' cultural awareness and helps them develop the confidence and resilience that are invaluable for university, apprenticeships and future careers. It is an enriching educational experience designed to inspire students while giving them a genuine advantage in their A Level studies.

The total cost of the trip, which includes flights including baggage, all transport, including to and from the airport, excursions and entry into sights, accommodation, breakfast and [insurance](#), as well as a voluntary contribution towards travel and other activities, will be between **£550 - £660** depending on the final number travelling. Please note if the trip is not viable due to insufficient funding we will let you know in good time and refund any payments made.

To secure a place for your child on this trip, **please pay an initial deposit of £300 by 9am Friday 2 October** via [Parentpay](#). If you need a copy of your activation details or are unable to access Parentpay please email [parentpay@swbgs.com](mailto:parentpay@swbgs.com).

Once numbers have been confirmed we will provide you with a payment schedule to spread the final cost of the trip. Places will **not** be allocated on a first come, first served basis. If we have more people who have paid a deposit by the deadline than there are places available, then we will pick names at random to make it as fair as possible. Deposits will be refunded for any student who does not gain a place.

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.

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. If your child is unable to travel once full payment has been made, a refund of recoverable costs will be made.

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 the school's behaviour policy at all times. Students are to follow instructions from teaching staff and the specialist guides. Alcohol consumption, smoking and vaping are prohibited and students are prohibited from entering accommodation areas of the opposite sex.

Every student will require a **valid passport** that was issued no earlier than ten years before the start of the trip (i.e. 29 January 2017) and which has a minimum 3 months validity from the end of the trip (expiring no earlier than **1 May 2027**). **Students with non-Schengen area passports will require a visa** please obtain this as soon as possible.

Students will also require a valid **Global/European Health Insurance Card**. These can be obtained free of charge:

<https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/healthcare-abroad/apply-for-a-free-uk-global-health-insurance-card-ghic/>

If you have any queries please email [mfl.office@swbgs.com](mailto:mfl.office@swbgs.com).

Yours faithfully

Mrs Colville  
Head of MFL