



ST MARY'S COLLEGE

21 June 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your patience over the past few weeks whilst we have been liaising with our tour company to expand our plans for the New York Trip 2022. We are pleased to inform you that we have managed to secure many additional places on the trip and now have the capacity to take 128 students across two trips.

We are thrilled that so many students have shown interest and are so keen to be a part of the New York trip. We believe it is extremely important to be able to present our students with such opportunities, especially considering the challenges we have all faced over the past year.

We have worked very closely with our tour company and will now be running two trips very close together. Unfortunately, due to the sheer volume of students, we are unable to take all students to New York at the same. The trips however are identical in price at £1,075 per person and will run in exactly the same way. Flight times are yet to be confirmed and we will update you once they have been booked which will not be until August / September. The following dates for the trip have been secured:

Trip 1: Friday 15th – Tuesday 19th July 2022

Trip 2: Friday 22nd – Tuesday 26th July 2022

Current Year 12s who have had their trip to New York rescheduled twice will automatically be placed on Trip 1. We ask that students ensure they are available for both dates as the number of students we can take on each one is fixed. As current Year 11 students both at St Mary's College and other schools have not yet started SM6, we will allocate students to trips after they have started with us in September. This will give students chance to form new friendship groups and to meet others who will be coming with us to New York. We will ensure that students are able to be with their friends so that they can truly enjoy what will be a trip of a lifetime. In rare cases that students are unavailable for a particular date, we will determine their trip on their availability, but we do ask for your support in helping us ensure that all students are happy with the trip they will go on. Places on trips will not be allocated until all students have started SM6 in September.

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Please find below a suggested payment plan to help spread the costs of the payment over the next year. Our experience tells us that paying smaller amounts on a more frequent basis is much more effective than leaving large amounts of the balance to be paid within close proximity to departure. The plan below involves a £100 payment per month and all payments should be made via Parent Pay. Should any student wish to pay amounts greater than suggested below to pay the trip off sooner, this would be most welcomed.

Friday 23rd July - £250 of the trip total paid
Friday 10th September - £350 of the trip total paid
Friday 8th October - £450 of the trip total paid
Friday 12th November - £550 of the trip total paid
Friday 10th December - £650 of the trip total paid
Friday 14th January - £750 of the trip total paid
Friday 11th February - £850 of the trip total paid
Friday 11th March - £950 of the trip total paid
Friday 15th April - £1,075 paid (full amount)

Please be aware that deposits have already been paid and we will be keeping all additional payments safely in the New York account at St Mary's College. We will not be making any further payments to the company until 2022. Should any student no longer wish to take part in the trip, they must notify the College immediately. Deposits will be returned when and if there is another student who can take the place.

I would like to thank you for your patience and support. We will provide further details of the trip in the forthcoming months. We obviously are unable to predict what the situation with Covid-19 will look like in over 12 months' time, but we are very hopeful that International travel will have resumed long before our trip is due to depart. Should there be any changes to our plans at any point, we will communicate these with you immediately.

Yours sincerely,

R Flanagan

Miss R Flanagan
Assistant Head Teacher