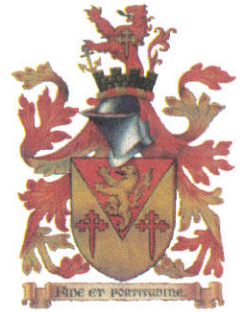




# WESTCLIFF HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

An Academy Grammar School  
Headteacher: Dr Paul Hayman BSc



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January 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

## R.S. visit – St Paul’s Cathedral and London Central Mosque, London Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2018

The R.S. Department are organising a visit to St Paul’s Cathedral and the Central Mosque in London on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

This visit supports the work that your daughter is currently undertaking as part of the ‘Religions’ section of the GCSE course. Students will be able to explore a Christian and an Islamic place of worship, gaining a broader understanding of their features, functions and significance to the religious communities and practices that they serve.

We will travel to London by coach, departing from school at 9.00 am. We will have guided tours around the cathedral and mosque, finishing at approximately 2.30pm. The coaches will depart from London between 2 and 3pm. We intend to be back at the bus stops outside school between 4 and 5pm, traffic permitting. As the trip is expected to arrive back after the departure of the consortium buses please make alternative arrangements for your daughter to travel home if applicable. If you feel that this will present a problem please contact the school as soon as possible.

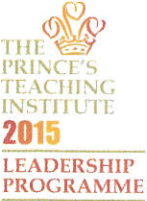
Your daughter will need to bring a packed lunch and a bottle of water, plus any spending money (maximum £10). Students are welcome to bring cameras, but may be prohibited from using them inside the buildings. All items and valuables are taken at the students’ own risk. Because of the nature of the visit, students are required to wear full school uniform. In addition, **because we are visiting a mosque, modest dress is essential, therefore skirts must be the appropriate (knee) length and we request that students bring a head scarf or something to cover their head. Otherwise entry to the mosque may be denied.**

The cost of the trip will be **£20.50** per pupil, which includes coach hire, entry to the cathedral and mosque with guided tours, including access to the ‘Whispering Gallery’, insurance cover and administration. In line with most school trips we are only allowed to ask parents to make a voluntary contribution towards the cost. **Payment is therefore not compulsory, but if insufficient voluntary contributions are raised to fund the visit, it will need to be cancelled.**

Parents who can prove they are in receipt of the following benefits will be exempt from paying the cost of the trip:

**SEAT**

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- Income Support (IS)
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA)
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999;
- Child tax Credit, provided that Working Tax Credit is **not** also received and the family's income (as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs) does not exceed £16,190 (Financial Year 2010/11);
- The guarantee element of State Pension Credit; and
- An income related employment and support allowance that was introduced on 27 October 2008.
- Working Tax Credit during the four-week period immediately after their employment finishes or after they start to work less than 16 hours per week. The parent(s)/guardian(s) will be sent a letter from HMRC stating that they are entitled to a four week 'run on' of Working Tax Credit.

If your daughter is currently in receipt of Free School Meals then we will only require a letter giving your consent for her to attend the trip.

Please pay for this trip using ParentPay. If you have any problems making payment on ParentPay please telephone Mrs Emery or the Finance Department on 01702 476026 to make payment over the telephone. **Payment is required no later than 19<sup>th</sup> February 2018.**

We appreciate that some girls will be participating with the Art activity day and as such, they will unfortunately be unable to join this visit.

Yours sincerely



Mr T Morgan  
**Head of Religious Studies**