

13 October 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Visit to Madrid – Easter 2026 with updated details and reduced costs

The trip to Madrid is for students in Years 9, 10, and 11 and is designed to support them in deepening their knowledge of the Spanish language and culture. Therefore, priority will be given to students who are studying Spanish at GCSE during the 2025/2026 academic year.

Your son/daughter has the exciting opportunity to take part in a residential visit to Madrid during the 2026 Easter holiday for 5 days and 4 nights. Students will be able to participate in a wide range of activities. The list of activities is outlined below:

- Experience the language and culture of Spain's capital city
- Visit the Bernabéu football stadium (home of Real Madrid)
- Visit the Royal Palace
- Parque Warner – theme park
- Enjoy a guided walking tour of Madrid, including the Almudena Cathedral, Plaza Mayor, and El Parque del Buen Retiro
- See El Templo de Debod
- Travel to El Escorial Monastery and Valle de los Caídos
- Take part in a Spanish cooking workshop
- Sample traditional tapas
- Visit the Museo del Prado
- Do some shopping
- Speak lots of Spanish and have fun along the way

The trip will take place during the Easter holidays **5-9 April 2026**, and we will travel by plane. As flight prices can vary, the cost listed below is an estimate. We plan to fly from Bristol to Madrid.

We have managed to negotiate the price down to £1175, which includes:

- Travel to Bristol airport
- Return flights from Bristol to Madrid
- Accommodation at a hostel in Madrid
- All activities listed above, including admission to tourist attractions
- Three meals per full day in Madrid

Students will need their own passport, valid for at least six months from the date of arrival in Spain. If your child holds a non-UK passport, please check whether a visa is required, as this will need to be

arranged by families and is likely to incur additional costs. They will also need a Global Health Insurance Card (GHIC), which replaces the EHIC. If your child already has an EHIC that will still be valid at the time of travel, it can still be used. Otherwise, you can apply for a GHIC free of charge at: <https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/healthcare-abroad/apply-for-a-free-uk-global-health-insurance-card-ghic/>

Once your child's place has been confirmed, their GHIC and passport should be brought to Student Reception to be photocopied.

Deposits of £375 are required to confirm your child's place. You can sign up and make payment via Arbor.

If you have any questions regarding the visit, please do not hesitate to contact me at: sfloyd2@castle.bep.ac

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S Floyd', written in a cursive style.

Mr S Floyd
Head of Faculty for Modern Foreign Languages
The Castle School