

9 September 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Visit to Madrid – Easter 2026

This trip 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 will be 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. A provisional list, based on previous trips, 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
- 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, 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. These dates are not yet confirmed as we are working to secure the best price which requires some flexibility. We will travel by coach between the school and Bristol Airport. Exact dates will be confirmed asap.

The provisional estimated cost of the trip is £1300, which includes:

- Return coach travel between the school and the 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.

There are 15 spaces available on this trip. If more than 15 students apply, priority will be given to those studying GCSE Spanish next year. Any remaining places will be allocated via a ballot.

If you would like your child to take part in the trip, please register your interest in the first instance by completing this Microsoft Form: <https://forms.office.com/e/vzagU5JBvd>

Deposits will be requested to confirm your child's place. Full payment details will also be provided once the exact dates have been confirmed.

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

Yours sincerely



Mr S Floyd
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