



6 October 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: New York February 2025

We are now able to give you final plans for our Performing Arts' Trip to New York. If we have more than 40 students wanting to come on this trip we will ballot the places. If we don't fill the trip with Drama and Dance students we will open it up to students studying Music. The trip is open to GCSE Drama and Dance students studying the subjects when they are in Years 10 and 11 in 2025. Students can secure their place with a signed permission slip and a deposit of £250. The trip will open for deposits on Thursday 12 October. The full balance of the trip needs to be settled by 30 November 2024. Details of the payment will follow once we have filled the trip. The cost of the trip will be £1950. As flights have not been released yet, this price is an estimate and the travel company have advised us to let you know there is a small possibility of the flights costing as much as £80 pp more. If flights were less than the estimate we would take this money off the price of the trip. If the flights cost more we will write to you again. As flights have not yet been released the dates and times for the trip need some flexibility. NST has a good history of accuracy when pricing trips so we hope £1950 will be the price of the complete trip. The trip includes:

- Return flights from London Heathrow to New York
- All coach transfers
- 4 nights Bed and Breakfast at Hostelling International New York (5th night return travel home)
- All meals
- Subway travel card
- 2 Broadway shows TBC
- 2 x 90 min Musical Theatre Workshop
- Entrance to Top of the Rock (Rockefeller Centre)
- Tour of Radio City Music Hall
- All sight seeing activities
- 3 Course Meal and drink at Ellen's Stardust Diner

Not Included:

- Personal spending money
- ESTA application – that must be completed by families by January 1st 2025
<https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/usa/entry-requirements>

We hope to leave from London on 15 February 2025 and return on 20 February 2025. Once places have been confirmed we will send out a further letter with a more detailed itinerary and hope to hold a parents' meeting in the lead up to the trip. All students need to have a full passport. We are happy for you to contact us with any questions you have before committing to the trip. As stated in our initial letter to families, it is essential students have a positive working relationship with the staff leading the trip to ensure its success for all involved. We look forward to updating you with more information.

If you would like your child to secure a place, please sign and return the permission slip by Thursday 19 October 2023 at the latest. Please pay either via the school's online payment system, Scopay, by cash/cheque (made payable to The Castle School) or by credit/debit card (either in person or over the phone).

Payment Plan

- £250 (deposit) ASAP to secure place – 19 October 2023
- £250 11 December 2023
- £250 11 Feb 2024
- £250 11 April 2024
- £250 11 June 2024
- £250 15 July 2024
- £250 11 Sept 2024
- £200 11 Nov 2024

Yours sincerely



Alexa Step
Head of Performing Arts

Please return completed slips to Student Reception by 19 October 2023.

Trip to New York, February 2025

Name of Student: Tutor Group:

I give permission for my son/daughter to go on the NYC trip.

I enclose cash/cheque for (made payable to The Castle School)/I have paid online, or by credit/debit card*. (*Please delete as applicable).

Signed (Parent/Carer) Date: