

April 2026

Dear parents/carers

**RE: Four Day Study Tour to Belgium (Battlefields Tour)**

**5<sup>th</sup> -8<sup>th</sup> July 2027**

We are proud to announce the details of our educational school trip to Belgium. The company we have chosen is Rayburn Tours, an educational travel company renowned for their health and safety record, and for providing enjoyable, educational and safe school trips.

The aim of the trip is to allow pupils to gain first hand experience of subject material that is relevant to their KS3 History curriculum as well as GCSE History.

The cost of the trip will be approximately £525 which will include coach travel and ferry crossings to and from the school to Belgium. Departure and arrival time will be confirmed closer to the time. During our visit, we will stay at the Peace Village Hostel which is located just outside the historic city of Ypres. The stay will be full board which includes breakfast, a packed lunch and an evening meal. As well as this, the accommodation provides extensive outdoor space for pupils to enjoy in the evenings.

For the trip, insurance and a range of excursions are also included. Pupils may wish to take a limited amount of spending money with them for souvenirs. A **valid passport** will also be needed for this trip.

If your child would like to participate in this trip, we do require a deposit of **£75 by Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2026** at the latest. Due to the number restrictions on this trip, places will be reserved on a first-come-first-served basis. **Please note: Deposits, where charged, are none refundable.** Payments will need to be made via Arbor Payments.

Below is a list of the things that will be covered on this trip:

- Coach and ferry travel to and from Belgium.
- Coach use as required by the itinerary.
- All road tolls and expenses.
- 3 nights full board at the Peace Village Hostel.
- In Flanders Field Museum.
- Tyne Cot Cemetery.
- Langemark Military Cemetery.
- Musee Somme 1916.
- Menin Gate and the Last Post Cemetery.
- Sanctuary Wood Hill 62 Museum.
- Thiepval Memorial Park.
- Hoge Crater Museum and Trenches.
- Vimy Ridge



**Principal:** Mrs H Zakary

George Eliot Academy is part of United Learning. United Learning comprises: UCST (Registered in England No: 2780748. Charity No. 1016538) and ULT (Registered in England No. 4439859. An Exempt Charity). Companies limited by guarantee. VAT number 834 8515 12. Registered address: United Learning, Worldwide House, Thorpe Wood, Peterborough, PE3 6SB.

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**Payment details:**

Below is the amount of money that needs to be paid towards the cost of the trip over the following months to meet the tour operator requirements. This will need to be completed online using the Arbor Payments system.

The payment plan id as follows:

Instalment	Amount	Payment due date
Deposit	£75.00	Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
2 <sup>nd</sup> Deposit	£100	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> July 2026
1	£50	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> September 2026
2	£50	Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> October 2026
3	£50	Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> December 2026
4	£50	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2027
5	£50	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> February 2027
6	£50	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> March 2027
7	£50	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April 2027

If you are in receipt of Free School Meals and would like your child to attend, please contact us to discuss what support the school can offer.

We are excited to offer your child the opportunity to participate in this exciting visit. However, to qualify for the trip, we require the following criteria to be met:

- Attendance: Your child must maintain an overall school attendance of 97% or above for the current academic year.
- Behaviour: Your child must demonstrate our STAR values throughout the year consistently both inside and outside the classroom.

Please note, failure to meet these criteria, without valid justification, will result in your child being removed from the trip, and any monies paid will be forfeited.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in ensuring all pupils meet these important criteria.

There will be a meeting in school closer to the departure date to discuss final arrangements for the trip and to answer any questions you may have. If you have any questions before that or would like to discuss the visit further, please contact the History department.

Best wishes

Mr S O'Keeffe  
Head of History  
sean.o'keeffe@georgeeliotacademy.org.uk



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**Four Day Study Tour to Belgium (Battlefields Tour)**

**5<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> July 2027**

I would like my child to have a place on the Belgium Battlefields Tour

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Form: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed (parent/carer) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return reply slip to Mr O'Keeffe

Once your child's place has been confirmed, the payment will open on Arbor Payments. Please pay deposit of £75 before Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May.



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