

December 2024

Dear parents/carers

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

**8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> November 2025**

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 also for providing enjoyable, educational and safe school trips.

The aim of this trip is to allow pupils to gain first hand experience of subject material that is relevant to their KS3 and GCSE History.

The cost of the trip will be approximately £415 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 Menin Gate School Hotel in Ypres which is located on the doorstep of the Menin Gate Memorial. The stay will be full-board which includes breakfast, a packed lunch and an evening meal.

For the trip, insurance and a range of excursions are also included. Pupils may also 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 the trip, we do require a deposit of £50. 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 non-refundable.** To secure a place on the trip pupils need to hand in their reply slips to Mr O'Keefe by **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2025**. The **first 40 pupils** to do so, will have the payment opened on Weduc Payments for them to secure their place.

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
- 2 nights full board at the Menin Gate School Hotel
- In Flanders Field Museum
- Menin Gate and Last Post Ceremony
- Langemark Military Cemetery
- Tyne Cot Cemetery
- Essex Farm Cemetery
- Visit to a chocolate shop in Ypres



**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 travel company requirements. This will need to be completed online using the school system Weduc Payments.

The payment plan is as following:

- Deposit - Due by Monday 13th January 2025 - £50
- 20<sup>th</sup> January 2025 -£75
- 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025 - £50
- 5<sup>th</sup> May 2025 - £50
- 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025 - £50
- 7<sup>th</sup> July 2025 - £50
- 8<sup>th</sup> September 2025 - £90

If you are in receipt of Pupil Premium and would like your child to attend the trip, please get in contact to discuss what support the school can offer.

On Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2025, there will be a meeting at 5pm to discuss the final arrangements for the trip and any last minute questions that you may have. If you have any questions or would like to discuss the visit, please contact the History department.

Yours sincerely

Mr S O'Keeffe

History Teacher

Sean.o'keeffe @georgeeliotacademy.org.uk

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**Three Day Study Tour to Belgium 8<sup>th</sup> -10<sup>th</sup> November 2025**

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 (M019) by Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2025



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