



Wildern School

Visits Prospectus

2024-26

Wildern School has always offered a fantastic range of domestic residential and international residential visits. Some of our trips are extremely well-established and have been offered for many years; students and former students will talk glowingly about their school visits to Austria, Belgium and Germany. Some have an entirely sporting focus (for example, our skiing trip). Others have had a particular curriculum focus (for example, our trips run by the History or Geography departments). Others have had a cultural focus (for example our exchange trips to Germany and Portugal). This prospectus indicates our current plans so that parents can see what trips are being offered, or are likely to be offered in the future. We cannot guarantee that every trip will run, nor can we guarantee that every child who wishes to go will secure a place. It may also be possible for a trip to be offered that is not in the prospectus. This sometimes happens when a new member of staff joins the school and is keen to offer a new experience. However, it is hoped this booklet will give a helpful guide and help parents plan accordingly.

Exchange Trips

Germany

The German exchange trip is an annual twinning event with our partner school in Kornwestheim, Germany. The exchange trip is open to students in Years 8-10 who learn German. We spend nine days in Germany at the end of the Spring term. Our German guests visit us for a similar length of time at the beginning of July.

The German exchange offers a uniquely international experience. Wildern students have the opportunity to develop their foreign language skills in an authentic context. They mix with and develop friendships with Germans of a similar age. They visit places of historic and international renown such as Heidelberg, the Black Forest and Lake Constance.

Over the last 40 years, the German exchange has been a life-changing experience for Wildern students. Many have chosen to study German and use it in their future profession. Friendships have even developed between the respective families of exchange partners.

	Spring 2 2025	Spring 2 2026
Location	Germany	Germany
Dates	March	March
Year groups offered	8-10	8-10
Focus	Language skills, Exchange visit	Language skills, Exchange visit
Approx Cost	£450	£450
No places available	30	
Trip Status	In planning	In planning
Teacher to contact	Mr Russell	Mr Russell

Sporting trips

Skiing Trips

We offer an annual skiing trip for students in Years 8, 9 and 10. This will give students the opportunity to attend a skiing tour without affecting Year 11 examination revision. Trips are by coach to a major Alpine resort in Austria. Trips last nine days (including transfers) and are all inclusive.

	Easter 2026	Easter 2027
Location	Austria	Austria
Dates	Easter Holidays	Easter Holidays
Year groups offered	8-10	8-10
Focus	Skiing	Skiing
Approx Cost	£1200	£1200
No. places available	45	45
Trip Status	In planning	In planning
Teacher to contact	Mr Wood	Mr Wood

Culture Trips

German Christmas Markets

This is a weekend visit to the German Christmas Markets in Cologne that runs annually in December. The trip spans two days and visit Cologne and the Christmas market. Price includes coach travel, B&B in a hotel, visit to a chocolate museum and tour of a chocolate factory.

	Christmas 2024	Christmas 2025
Location	Germany	Germany
Dates	December 2024	December 2025
Year groups offered	9-10 language students	9-10 language students
Focus	Language skills, Cultural visit	Language skills, Cultural visit
Approx Cost	£280	£300
No places available	46	46
Trip Status	In planning	In planning
Teacher to contact	Mr Russell	Mr Russell

Battlefields

We will be offering the opportunity for Year 9 students to enrich their experience of the History curriculum through a field trip to France and Belgium. Students will gain a detailed insight into the events of World War One through first hand experiences including: the trenches of World War One at Sanctuary Wood, the underground tunnels at Vimy Ridge, the Last Post ceremony at Menin Gate, the contrasting British and German cemeteries at Langemark and Tyne Cot, and the most impressive interactive state of the art Memorial Museum in Passchendaele.

	Autumn 2024	Autumn 2025
Location	Belgium	Belgium
Dates	October 2024	October 2025
Year groups offered	10	10
Focus	History visit	History visit
Approx Cost	£450	£450
No places available	45	45
Trip Status	Planned – full	Planned – Launching February 2025
Teacher to contact	Mrs Dellow	Mrs Dellow

Barcelona - Design & Gaudi Exploration / Food Market / Tapas Workshop

A 3 day trip to Barcelona, exploring the essence of the fascinating architecture and delicious cuisine that the Spanish culture has to offer.

	Spring 2	Spring 2
Location	Spain	Spain
Dates	March 2025	March 2027
Year groups offered	9&10	9&10
Focus	Food & Hospitality enrichment	Food & Hospitality enrichment
Approx Cost	£700	£700
No places available	40	40
Trip Status	In planning	TBC
Teacher to contact	Mrs King	Mrs King

Madrid

A 4 day trip to experience the culture of the capital of Spain, visiting the sights and developing language skills in a practical way.

	Spring 1	Spring 1
Location	Spain	Spain
Dates	February 2025	February 2026
Year groups offered	9&10	9&10
Focus	Language skills, cultural visit	Language skills, cultural visit
Approx Cost	£900	£900
No places available	40	40
Trip Status	In planning	In planning
Teacher to contact	Mrs Sana	Mrs Sana

Italy

We are delighted to offer your child the opportunity for a pioneering visit to Italy, Rome and the Bay of Naples. Our main focus is for your child to experience the rich and exciting culture of Rome and the tranquil beauty of the Bay of Naples. Students will have the opportunity to visit the Ancient Coliseum, the Vatican City, Pompeii, Herculaneum, Vesuvius and the beautiful Island of Capri. The visit and activities will offer insights into an extremely different culture and country as well as being beneficial to your child's GCSE studies.

	Easter 2027
Location	Italy
Dates	Easter holidays
Year groups offered	10
Focus	History visit
Approx Cost	£1200
No places available	45
Trip Status	In planning
Teacher to contact	Mr Morrison

Iceland

A 3 night, four day residential to Iceland in which students will see first hand how people live alongside tectonic hazards. Students get to see other breathtaking physical landscapes we study in Geography such as waterfalls, even walking behind Seljalandsfoss. Students walk on the black sandy beaches at Vik and even get to hike a glacier and not only learn, but also see the impact climate change is having on our planet. Students also get to relax at the Blue Lagoon and see the power of geothermal energy.

	Autumn 2024	Easter 2026
Location	Iceland	Iceland
Dates	October 2024	TBC
Year groups offered	9	9
Focus	Geography	Geography
Approx Cost	£1200	£1200
No places available	45	45
Trip Status	Planned – full	Planned – To be launched September 2024
Teacher to contact	Mrs Dixon	Mrs Dixon

France

A 4 day trip to experience the sport, history and language of France through on-site activities and exploring the local area.

	Summer 2	Spring 2
Location	France	France
Dates	July 2025	July 2027
Year groups offered	9&10	9&10
Focus	Language skills, Cultural Experience	Language skills, Cultural Experience
Approx Cost	TBC	TBC
No places available	40	40
Trip Status	In planning	In planning
Teacher to contact	Mr Russell	Mr Russell

Argoed Lwyd Activity Centre

A 3 night residential trip to Argoed Lwyd Outdoor Education Centre located in the Brecon Beacons National Park. This is an exciting opportunity for your child to experience a range of outdoor geographical activities such as caving, waterfall and gorge walking. They will spend two full days engaging in these activities. Along with this, students will participate in centre led evening activities to further develop their team building skills alongside geographical and problem solving skills.

	Summer 2 2025	Summer 2 2026
Location	Wales	Wales
Dates	Summer 2	Summer 2
Year groups offered	8	8
Focus	Geography	Geography
Approx Cost	£4000	£400
No places available	45	45
Trip Status	Launching Sept 2024	In planning
Teacher to contact	Mrs Dixon	Mrs Dixon

Securing a Place on a Trip and Oversubscription Criteria

Each trip will have a published closing date to return reply slips and initial deposit. The School will not adopt a first-come-first-served basis for allocating places on trips. However, students applying by the closing date will be offered places before any student applying after the closing date. Students will not be able to secure a place on any trip if their parents owe the school money for other trips or activities. Where a trip is oversubscribed, the trip organiser will investigate whether it is possible to take additional students. Where this is not possible, students will be allocated on the following basis:

1. Priority will be given to students who have a particular educational need. For example, Year 10 students choosing GCSE History would have priority for a place on the American West trip.
2. Priority will be given to students who have been on the fewest previous trips or who do not have confirmed places on planned international residential visits organised by the School.
3. Names will be drawn randomly out of a hat by the trip leader. If multiple birth students have applied, all or no siblings will be offered a place.
4. A waiting list will be compiled and kept by the trip leader in accordance with points 1 to 3. Students applying after the published return deadline will join the waiting list in the order in which they have returned their reply slip.

The list of students on the trip will be circulated to the Director of Progress and Achievement. In consultation with SLT, the DOPA may remove a student from a trip where it is decided that recent behaviour gives rise to concerns about the impact the student might have on the safety, well-being or enjoyment of other students on the trip or where behaviour on any previous visit resulted in a sanction upon return to school. Parents will be informed of whether their child has secured a place on the trip.

Student Visits Code of Conduct

- Remember to be polite and cooperative at all times, whether dealing with each other, members of staff or members of the public. You are representing your school.
- Listen carefully to all instructions and act on them.
- Punctuality is important. Always report at the time and place agreed with members of staff.
- Never go anywhere without clear permission from a member of staff. Always go in groups of at least three, never alone.
- Treat others and their property with respect. Ensure hotel rooms or accommodation is kept and left tidy.
- Report all incidents or breakages to a member of staff immediately.
- Quiet and lights out at the agreed time.
- Coaches are to be kept tidy, no litter or chewing gum.
- No smoking and no alcohol. These and any other prohibited item must not be purchased to be brought back e.g. fireworks, penknives or laser pens.

Failure to follow this code of conduct will result in sanctions being applied:

Minor incidents will be dealt with on the visit by the member of staff with responsibility for behaviour. Sanctions may be a verbal reprimand or loss of free time.

Serious incidents will be dealt with on the return to school and could result in a ban from further visits.

In the unlikely event of a student committing gross misconduct the student will be sent home from the visit early at the expense of the parent.