

March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

4-day trip to Budapest

Thank you for your consent form and deposit of £150 for the trip to Budapest. I can now confirm that your child has a place on the trip, which will take place from Thursday 19th September to Sunday 22nd September 2024, and that 9 pupils from year 12 will be staying with myself and Mrs Lockhart at the Baross hotel. This hotel in Budapest is centrally located. There are several restaurants, cafes, shops and attractions nearby, making it an ideal place to stay. The popular City Park and the famous Grand Boulevard is only a 10-minute walk away. The hotel meets all our safety requirements and has very good facilities.

The itinerary is still being decided but it is likely to be:

- Thursday** Very early departure from Rayleigh Station by coach (X10) to Stansted for a 7.00am check-in. An afternoon of sightseeing in Budapest: a walking tour with a tour guide, 3-course meal.
- Friday** Visits to Vadaskert Foundation and the Peto Institute, plus a folklore evening with a 3-course meal included.
- Saturday** Visit to Cseppko Children's Home, and a visit to a local nursing home, 3-course meal included in the evening.
- Sunday** Time for sightseeing and souvenir shopping. Late flight home landing at 22.05pm. Return from Stansted by coach (X10) to Rayleigh Station.

The payment schedule for the trip is as follows:

- 2nd payment of £200 by 1st April 2024
- 3rd payment of £150 by 1st May 2024
- 4th Payment of £150 by 1st June 2024
- 5th Final payment of £150 by 1st July 2024

In order to fulfil payments in line with the schedule above, you may wish to make smaller, more regular payments or larger payments before the dates stated. This can be managed via your ScoPay account.

ScoPay is now the preferred method of payment for all trips, visits and school activities. If you visit <https://www.scopay.com/login> you will see payment details. If you have mislaid your ScoPay login details please call Pupil Services. Should you still wish to pay by cash or cheque please hand into Pupil Services (cheques should be made payable to *Rayleigh Schools Trust*). If you have any ScoPay queries regarding this trip, please contact Mrs A Twomey (atwomey@sweynepark.com).

So now is the time to start applying for passports if you do not yet have one! All passports will need an expiry date of a minimum of three months (up to date information from the Hungarian and UK Government for British travellers to Hungary) after the scheduled dates of the trip, i.e. 22nd December 2024. Any pupil with a passport expiry date before this time will need to renew their passport before they travel. For those applying for a new passport, please supply new details as per the Consent Form by 1st June 2024. Please could you also obtain a GHIC card for your son/daughter. This can be obtained free of charge from the NHS website.

Please could you also supply your child with an envelope containing a 20 Euro note with your child's name on it. This will act as a damage deposit and, assuming there are no damages to the hotel room, it will be given to your child upon check-out of the hotel to spend on lunch on the last day.

In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries regarding the trip (scooke@sweynepark.com).

Yours sincerely,

S Cooke

Mrs S Cooke
Head of Health and Social Care