

St. Bede's Catholic College

Specialist Science and Sports College
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Principal: Mr J. G. Maher, M.A.



6th March 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Re: Essential Information for the History Trip to Krakow (8th-12th April)

As we complete the preparations for our trip, I wish to share some important information with you. The itinerary for our visit is very full and therefore it is essential that pupils come fully equipped and know what to expect.

Times of Departure and Return

We are flying from **Bristol Airport**. Therefore, pupils will need to be dropped off at Bristol Airport, where they will be met in the entrance hall by St Bede's Catholic College staff.

They need to be at the airport at **7.55hrs on Monday, 8th April 2019**.

Flight EZY 6275

We are expected to arrive back at **Heathrow Airport** at **22.50 hrs on Thursday, 11th April 2019**. Flight **BA 873**.

Pupils will travel back **to St Bede's Catholic College by coach**. The arrival time at college is 2.00am (the early hours of Friday, 12th April).

In case of delay

Should we be delayed on the return journey you will receive a phone call from your child, telling you of our new estimated arrival time. You can check the BA website for further information.

Food/Accommodation

We are staying in a comfortable hotel in Krakow for three nights (Hotel Wyspianski, very near the centre of Krakow). The first meal pupils will receive is on the Monday evening. **Therefore it is essential that pupils are aware that they will need to purchase food and drink throughout the day, until their first meal (refreshment stops will be made en route).**

All breakfasts and evening meals are provided. Pupils will be **expected to pay for their own lunch each day and food on the afternoon that we depart for the airport.**

NB. The hotel does provide pupils with towels but they might be of an inferior quality to what they expect in British hotels.

Pupils will need to provide their own toiletries (Please bring roll on deodorants NOT sprays).

Equipment/Clothing

The visit involves **a lot of walking outdoors**. Pupils **must** bring the following items. (It is often extremely cold in Krakow at this time of year and pupils need to be adequately equipped).

- Warm outdoor clothing
- **Waterproof Coat**
- Trousers
- **Sensible footwear, which is comfortable and waterproof.**
- A small bag or rucksack for carrying packed lunches / paper /pen/ money etc
- Toiletries
- Polish currency- Zloty (PLN)

Pupils will need to bring zloty with them and some British sterling if they wish to purchase food and drink at the airport. Zloty will be needed to buy lunches and if pupils wish to purchase gifts and souvenirs. There is limited opportunity for shopping during the visit. Pupils must be responsible for their own money throughout the journey.

Pupils will not have to pay any entrance fees as these have already been included in the price of the trip.

Therefore, we recommend no more than £20 in sterling and the equivalent of £40 in zloty for lunches and refreshments. Pupils will need to bring additional spending money if they wish to purchase gifts or souvenirs.

Personal Items

If pupils wish to bring personal music players, mobile phones, cameras etc they must be responsible for them. Any insurance claim made against lost property automatically incurs a £30 penalty.

Pupils must not be listening to music at any time during a visit or whilst staff or our guide are speaking to them on the coach or explaining the significance of each site they visit. We will be accompanied by guides throughout our visits.

Behaviour expectations

The success of the trip relies on the good behaviour of all pupils. We expect the highest standards of behaviour and courteousness throughout the visit. Any misbehaviour will be dealt with severely as we cannot allow the selfishness of any individual to spoil the enjoyment of the rest of the party. This is an educational tour and all pupils will be expected to participate fully in all activities.

The consumption of alcohol and smoking is strictly forbidden at all times on our trip. This applies to our year 13 students as well, despite the fact that some of them are already 18.

Accompanying Adults

Mrs K Lewis (Head of History) Party Leader

Miss J Hancock (History Department/ Head of Business Studies)

Mr V Curnock (Vice Principal)

Mr S Gibbs (History Department)

NST Tour guide – Nigel Duckworth

All accompanying adults have been DBS checked.

Transport / Safety

We are travelling with NST travel, which is one of the leading travel groups for educational tours in the country. Each child has adequate travel insurance included in the price of the trip. However, any claim made against the insurance automatically incurs a £30 penalty. The loss or theft of mobile phones are NOT covered by NST insurance and therefore we encourage you to check that this is covered on your own household insurance.

We are travelling with Easyjet to Krakow and British Airways back to Heathrow. In Krakow we will use the tram system (pupils will be accompanied at all times). On one of the days we will travel by coach to Auschwitz. (NST have carried out all the necessary checks).

Pupils must wear seatbelts at all times, when in a moving coach in accordance with European Law.

Under no circumstances are pupils to purchase dangerous or flammable materials such as penknives, pellet guns or pellets, laser pens, fireworks, bangers, etc or cigarettes or alcohol

Security at the airports is very tight. Therefore, pupils who have made illegal purchases will have goods confiscated and this might mean that we miss our flights.

AIRLINE REGULATIONS

- 1) Each passenger is allowed one piece of hand luggage-max. weight 10kg, max. dimensions - 56cm x 45 cm x 25cm (including the handles, pockets and wheels)

AND

- 2) Each passenger is allowed one piece of checked luggage (suitcase or holdall)
max weight 15 kg (no bigger than 90cm x 75cm x 43cm
including the handle, pockets and wheels)

Liquids can only be carried in hand luggage if it is in separate containers that hold no more than 100ml and are put in a single, transparent, re-sealable plastic bag. This includes deodorants, face creams, shaving cream, make-up etc

No scissors, tweezers, sharp objects etc can be carried in hand luggage.

No flammable items can be carried in luggage, such as lighters, matches, fireworks.

Food is allowed in hand luggage but the only drinks allowed are those that have been purchased once you have gone through the security checks.

Emergencies

In the event of a **real** emergency, where you must contact your child immediately, please phone the mobile number below. School **will not be open** because the trip is during the Easter holidays.

07923498086

However, this number is only to be used in the case of extreme emergencies. You will only be contacted by staff if there is a problem and **will not** be notified when we arrive in Krakow.

Passports and EHIC cards

Every pupil must have their individual passport and their EHIC in their hand luggage. Staff will check these when pupils arrive at the airport. They must be easily accessible.

If your child does not have an EHIC YOU MUST APPLY FOR ONE IMMEDIATELY AS THEY TAKE SEVERAL WEEKS TO ARRIVE.

Medicines

Please ensure your child brings their inhaler if they use one and that staff have been notified of any medication your child will need to take on the trip

Refund

Please be aware that if your child should withdraw from the trip at this late stage you will lose at least 80% of the full cost and your initial deposit. Refunds will only be given if accompanied by a medical certificate which states your child is unfit to travel (minus the deposit).

Meeting for Parents

A meeting about this visit will take on Tuesday 19th March 2019 in the college Lecture Theatre at 3.45pm-4.15pm, in case you have any questions that you would like to clarify.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me at college.

We look forward to a successful trip and feel sure this tour will have a lasting impact on your sons/daughters.

Yours faithfully,

K.M.Lewis

K.M.Lewis (Head of History)



