

2016-2017 Languages Department exchanges and visits

Key Stage 3 and 4 information (Sixth form students will be notified separately regarding exchange opportunities available to them)

Katharine Lady Berkeley's School offers exchange programmes with schools in France, Spain and Japan, as well as study trip to China.

We have been talking to Year 9 and 10 students about the exchanges on offer and the benefits of taking part in them. They are a unique opportunity to experience life with a host family in another country and to improve language skills – either by putting into practice what you already know or by absorbing the language you hear when you're there. They are a chance to make new friends and to experience the culture of the country you have learnt about.

We should also emphasise that these are educational visits, not holidays, and that participants are expected to behave accordingly. The exchanges cannot exist without good will and cooperation between all parties and we need to be able to rely on students' resilience and flexibility when they are taking part. All participants' names are approved by heads of year when applications are made.

As far as the French and Spanish exchanges are concerned, it would help the school provide the best value for money and keep costs down overall if students taking those languages would consider either trip should numbers require it. Over/undersubscription of trips in the past few years has made it difficult either to run a trip or to control costs.

2016-2017 Exchanges information booklets and application forms are available from the languages department

Country	Eligible year groups	Cost	Timing	Notes
France Bois le Roi, near Paris	Year 10 and Year 9	£370	Inbound 2-11 May 2017 Outbound 5-13 June 2017	Deposit £150 Applications accepted until 12 October
Spain Madrid	Year 10 and Year 9	£355	Inbound June / July Outbound 21-28 February 2017	Deposit £150 Applications accepted until 12 October
Spain Gran Canaria	Year 10 and Year 9	£480	Inbound June TBC Outbound 20-27 February 2017	Deposit £200 Applications accepted until 12 October
Japan Hikawa High School	Year 10 and Year 9	2015/16 cost £1600 2016/17 cost TBC	Inbound 13-25 March 2017 Outbound in October 2017	Application in November Deposit usually £200 Extra hosts will be needed in March
China Study Camp (not exchange)	Year 11 and Year 10	£1750	8/9-23/24 July 2017 TBC	Deposit £250 Applications accepted until 7 November Launch meeting 3 October 7-8pm in the Canteen, letters available after that in lessons