



WILLIAM ELLIS SCHOOL  
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20<sup>th</sup> November 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

### **China language and cultural exchange trip**

I am writing to let you know that William Ellis has been awarded a grant from the British Council to participate in an exchange trip with a school in Shanghai, China. We are the only school in the UK who have been awarded this opportunity and as such we are really excited to be able to offer 22 students the chance to take part.

*Vicky Gough, school's adviser at the British Council, said: "This school exchange to China will immerse William Ellis pupils in a very different way of life, and the memories they'll make will no doubt stay with them for years to come. International experience can have a positive and long-lasting effect on people's lives, which is why it's particularly important that we support pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds who might not otherwise get such an opportunity to learn about new cultures in this way."*

The visit will take place between the 31<sup>st</sup> March and the 10<sup>th</sup> April 2020. The aim of the visit is to promote cultural exchange between the UK and China, and William Ellis students will plan and run classes for Chinese students about Cricket. The Chinese students will then teach William Ellis students about Mandarin and Chinese calligraphy painting.

Students will also visit famous sights in Shanghai and Su Zhou, and will have the chance to speak Mandarin throughout their visit; try Chinese food and be immersed in a different way of life. This is a valuable learning experience. Students can also use this trip towards the service section of their Duke of Edinburgh award, and include it in applications for colleges and universities.

As the school has been awarded the British Council grant, we are able to offer this trip at a very competitive rate of £1000 per student. The visit is open to students in years 8, 9 and 10 who study art or Mandarin.

In order to secure a place for your son you will need to pay a deposit of £250 by the 2<sup>nd</sup> December.

Thank you

Ms Madsen/Ms Yu Shi

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### **Trip to China, 31<sup>st</sup> March – 10<sup>th</sup> April 2020**

I hereby give consent for my son to take part in the trip.

Name of student: \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of parent/carers \_\_\_\_\_

I agree to pay the £250 deposit required to hold a place for my son on the visit I will transfer this deposit on ParentPay and I will transfer the deposit before the deadline of the 2<sup>nd</sup> December.