



JH03AT

October 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

**Year 11 GCSE Drama Residential Visit to London
Thursday 23 & Friday 24 November 2023**

As promised here are further details regarding the forthcoming London theatre visit for Year 11 GCSE Drama students. We will leave school on Thursday 23 November at 7.30am prompt, so students should arrive by 7.20am. Please ensure that they only bring one bag of luggage, this will be placed in the back of the bus and we will not have access again until Thursday evening. Students are to take medication, money, notebooks and lunch onto the bus with them.

We will see two shows on Thursday, a matinee of 'Matilda' and then an evening show of a new comedy, 'To Have and to hold'. Dinner is included and students will be asked to choose pizza or pasta from Pizza Express. Students will be expected to make notes on the performances seen in preparation for their GCSE examination.

We are staying at The Wembley International Hotel and students will be sharing a triple room. On Friday we will have a full breakfast and then travel by coach to the Southbank for a backstage tour of The National Theatre. There will be a short break for a quick lunch (students to get own lunch) and then we will travel to Covent Garden by coach for a 2-hour practical workshop led by theatre professionals. Students will have some free time prior to the workshop to explore the Covent Garden area. It is important that all students wear sensible clothing for walking around London and taking part in a practical workshop. We aim to return to West Kirby Grammar School for 10.30pm. I have attached the itinerary and useful phone numbers below.

Please can you speak to your child/ward about behaviour and expectations on the visit, under no circumstance must anyone go off on their own. They should be always in groups of 3 or more and ensure that they arrive promptly for all activities. At the theatre they are expected to turn off their phones and sit quietly, during the workshop all students are to take part. It takes a long time to plan a visit like this and I trust that I can rely on you for your support.

Finally, can I remind you to ensure that you are up to date with your payment for the visit.

Please get in touch if you have any questions.

Kind regards,

J Halliday

Ms J Halliday
Head of Drama
Lead Practitioner

The school has a blanket School Journey Insurance policy in place to provide appropriate cancellation, curtailment, medical and personal possessions cover. This policy also carries very limited personal accident insurance cover for pupils. As the school will not be liable for any injury arising from incidents beyond our direct control, parents/carers may wish to consider purchasing their own personal accident cover to enhance the limited protection of this policy.



London Itinerary

Thursday 23 November 2023

- 07.30 Meet at school (1 bag per person). Coach pick up: Carvers Coaches, Ellesmere Port. (Phone number: 0151 355 8888).
- 07.40 Leave school, head to Cambridge Theatre, Earlham Street, London. WC2H 9HU. Stop at service station for 40 min rest/snacks.
- 13.00 Arrive at drop off point near Drury Lane, London. Walk to theatre via Covent Garden.
- 14.00 Performance 'Matilda the Musical'.
- 16.35 Show ends. Meet at theatre reception and walk to Pizza Express, St Martins Lane.
- 16.45 Group meal at Pizza Express, St Martins Lane, London.
- 17.40 As group, walk back to coach drop off point (suggested The Strand).
- 17.50 Coach travel to Hampstead Theatre, Eton Avenue, Swiss Cottage, London, NW3 3EU.
- 18.45 Arrive at Hampstead Theatre, Swiss Cottage, London, NW3 3EU.
- 19.30 Performance 'To Have and to Hold' comedy at Hampstead Theatre.
- 22.00 Coach pick up to Wembley International hotel.
- 23.00 Check in to hotel. Room allocation agreed in advance.
- 23.15 Students in bed.

Friday 24 November 2023

- 08.00 Breakfast at hotel
- 09.00 Leave hotel - coach to South Bank. Short London tour.
- 10.15 Arrive at South Bank – National Theatre
- 10.30 Tour 1 of The National Theatre
- 10.45 Tour 2 of The National Theatre
- 11.00 Meet at The National Theatre
- 12.00 All tours complete. Free time in Southbank
- 12.50 Make way back to coach.
- 13.00 Travel to Covent Garden via coach – drop off as yesterday (The Strand). Walk to venue for workshops.
- 13.20 Arrive at Neal's Yard. Group 1 workshop. Second group walk to second venue Arts Theatre, 6-7 Newport Street. Group 1 free time around Covent Garden.
- 13.25 Second group arrive at venue, Arts Theatre. Group 2 free time around Covent Garden.
- 14.25 Both groups have returned to Workshop venues.
- 14.30 Practical Workshop led by theatre professionals.
- 16.30 Workshop ends. Walk to coach.
- 16.45 Meet coach and start return journey to WKGS. (Stop at Services on way home)
- 10.15 Arrive back to WKGS - parents to pick students up promptly.

HOPE YOU ENJOY THE THEATRE EXPERIENCE