

GREYFRIARS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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Headteacher | Ms L Caldwell

A Catholic School that champions every student so that they flourish individually and collectively.

7th January 2026

Dear families

French Christmas Market Trip | Amiens, France

2nd December - 4th December 2026

It is with great excitement that I invite your child to join our French Market Trip, taking place in December 2026. This visit offers a wonderful opportunity for students to experience French culture firsthand and practise their language skills at the Amiens Christmas Market. The trip is open to all students currently in Years 7, 8,9 and 10.

We will visit France, staying in Amiens which is situated in the North of France in the Haut-de-France region. Our accommodation is likely to be the Poppies D'albert, a purpose-built hostel, catering exclusively for school groups. Students will stay in multi-bedded rooms, all of which have en-suite facilities. The hostel also has recreational areas with a swimming pool and football pitch which our students will have access to. Breakfast and dinner will be provided by the hotel.

Our itinerary includes:

- A visit to the Amiens Christmas Market—the largest in northern France, with over 100 stalls offering traditional crafts, food and gifts.
- A tour of Amiens Cathedral, the tallest complete cathedral in France.
- A guided walk through the city's historic districts, ending in the main shopping area where students can explore and practise their French.
- Additional time on the final day to revisit the Christmas Market and any sights of interest before travelling home to Oxford.

We will be travelling with the renowned tour company, Halsbury Travel and have entrusted them with the planning of this trip. They have a comprehensive safety management system and are fully bonded through ABTA and ATOL. They meet all the requirements of the DfE



guidelines. The cost of the trip includes comprehensive travel insurance for all those attending.

We will be travelling via an executive coach with a professional and experienced driver. The coach remains with us throughout the tour and has air conditioning and toilet facilities. We will travel via ferry from Dover to Calais. This is a 3-day tour with 2 nights in France.

What is included in the price?

- Comprehensive travel insurance, including that for medical emergencies.
- Return travel
- 2 nights **half-board** accommodation (first meal - Friday evening)
- Full trip programme

Lunch each day is not provided and students will need to bring money to buy lunch for the days we are away as well as for dinner during our return journey. Whilst we can include this in the cost, we have found that students don't tend to want to eat the lunches that are provided and so have not included this.

How to book

The total cost of this tour is **£325**.

In order to secure a place on the trip, please pay a non-refundable deposit of **£50** by 31st January 2026. Payments should be made electronically via www.parentpay.com.

You will also need to complete the consent details on ParentPay, including passport information.

The schedule for payments is as follows:

Date	Payment
31st January 2026 Non-refundable deposit	£50
28th February 2026	£75
31st March 2026	£75

30th April 2026	£75
31st May 2026	£50

If you are in receipt of Free School Meals or the Pupil Premium, we may be able to offer financial assistance. Please contact Mrs Fiona Easton (f.easton@gfcs.uk) to discuss this.

There are a **limited number of spaces** on this trip so if the trip is oversubscribed, we will select students based on students' engagement with school and then based on a random ballot.

Please note that poor behaviour in school can disqualify students from attending trips.

Passports

Please be aware that you are responsible for organising the correct visa for your child if they require one for travelling to Europe.

Thank you for taking an interest in this project. If you have any questions at this stage, please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Yours faithfully

Miss Louise Parish
French Teacher