



History and Technology Heritage Trip Duxford Imperial War Museum 18th July

Dear parents/ carers,

I have the pleasure of informing you about an upcoming joint History/Technology heritage trip to the Duxford Imperial War Museum on the 18th of July.

Why are we visiting the Imperial War Museum at Duxford?

As you may or may not know, Balderton, and specifically the fields around the school, used to be the home of Balderton Airfield during World War 2. It was also closely linked to Sir Frank Whittle's testing of the original jet engine. We think it is important to inform our students of the proud heritage of the immediate area, and what better place to take them, then to visit the highly renowned IWM. Students will see firsthand a range of planes from different time periods from World War 1 to present day jet engines.

The trip will enrich the learning that has taken place in year 9 history lessons, where they have studied World War 2. Unfortunately, we can only take 40 students on the day. The trip has been delivered in the year 9 assembly today and students now know what it entails. **The cost of the trip is £24.** This is to cover the travel/ coach arrangements only. Entry is free for school group bookings.

How do I book the Duxford Trip?

To make this as fair as possible we have decided to place the trip on Parent Pay and students will be allocated a place on a first come first served basis. It will be available to book a place on the 26th of June.

Behaviour and conduct on the day

Student will be split into 4 groups of 10 on the day and will remain with an assigned member of staff when touring the Duxford site. We will rotate groups looking at different attractions and hangars throughout the day using a carousel system.

The Imperial War Museum is a big site, we have risk assessments in place, and it has an active airfield on site. We therefore insist that students stay in their group and do not separate to look at other points of interest or attractions. Students are not allowed to touch any of the artifacts or aircraft unless permitted by Duxford staff. Students are not allowed to run around the museum due to the planes and potentially dangerous/ sharp artefacts on show. We expect that students show the Suthers Way and are respectful, kind to each other, and listen and follow instructions from their group leader and staff at the museum.

If any students do not meet this expectation, they will be asked to join the trip leader for the remainder of the day and parents will be contacted regarding their behaviour.

What will I need on the day?

Students need to be suitably dressed for the day. Students will not be expected to wear school uniform; however, we encourage students to wear suitable footwear (there will be a lot of walking!) and to bring a jumper or jacket in case it rains. Students should also ensure to apply sunscreen if the sun is forecast!

Students will need to bring their own lunch and drink. We have been designated an indoor area for students to sit and have their lunch; we simply ask that you do not bring any food containing nuts in case there are students who have a nut allergy.

Students may wish to bring some additional money on the day if they wish to buy anything from the visitor's centre shop at the end of the day. However, this will be dependent on time!

Students will be allowed to bring their mobile phones in case we need to contact you to inform you about our expected return time to the Suthers school. We obviously encourage the safe and sensible use of mobile phones. Students should not be posting/ messaging videos or photos on any social media platforms containing images of other students on the trip.

What will students see on the day?

We will take students to 4 different hangars/ attractions on the day. These will consist of the following:

- American Air Museum,
- Flying aircraft
- Air and Sea
- Battle of Britain/Conservation
- Air space

What time will I need to be in school and what time will students get back?

Students should arrive at school at the normal time; it takes approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes to travel to the museum. We will leave at 8.45am, aiming to arrive at 10.15 for We will leave the museum at 2.15pm and aim to get back to The Suthers School at approximately 3.45pm (dependent on traffic)

As you can see this is a very exciting opportunity and we are looking forward to taking our students to Duxford Museum. If you would like your child to participate, complete the booking on parent pay. If you have any further questions, please contact the school's reception and leave your message with our reception staff.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Smith
Head of Technology

Beth Shelton
Head of History