



Aston Fields Middle School

Striving for Excellence: Learning for Life

September 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Educational French Visit to “le Chateau d’Ebbingham”, St Omer - France 2026

I am writing to give you details of the proposed French Visit to St. Omer in Northern France from **15th May to 18th May 2026**.

Resort

We will be staying in the small village of Ebbingham, 8kms east of Saint Omer, in Northern France, approximately 45 minutes’ drive from Calais.

Travel

We will journey, by executive coach, from school to the Eurotunnel, in Folkestone, where we will take the Shuttle to Calais. The coach will remain with us throughout the entire visit and will be available daily, for our use.

Accommodation

We will be staying at le Chateau d’Ebbingham, a 19th Century French country house, owned and managed by the travel company NST. The accommodation is self contained, situated in 4 hectares of its own private grounds.

The Chateau has 4 separate buildings: - we will have sole occupancy of “Le Manoir”, which has fully en-suite bedrooms, a dining room and a recreation room with outdoor grounds and facilities.

Visits

Each day, the pupils will follow a pre-planned itinerary of exciting and interesting visits, where they will be encouraged to practise their oral and written French language skills, in a supportive and entertaining environment. We hope to visit a traditional French market, a Boulangerie to see bread and croissants being traditionally made, a snail farm, Nausicaa Sea Life Centre, Le Touquet, some beaches as well as exploring the local villages and towns. We will also visit Passchendaele in Belgium, Ypres and the Tyne Cot Cemetery – the largest cemetery for the Commonwealth forces in the world.

Evening Entertainment

The pupils will be occupied each evening, with a variety of activities, varying from team challenges to outdoor games and quizzes.

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ACE School of
CHARACTER

Headteacher: Mrs A. Hales BSc (Hons), PGCE, NPQH
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs J. Birrell BSc (Hons), QTS, SLE
Deputy Headteacher: Mr G. Hall BA (Hons), PGCE, NPQSL, SLE
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Cost

The total cost will be **£592**, to include all travel and transport, full board and accommodation, full travel insurance (details available on request), all excursions, some supply cover and other sundry expenditure (e.g. medical). (This price is based on a minimum number of 42 pupils – below this number the cost would increase).

Additional Costs

Pupils will require their own passport, since the travel company no longer recommend the use of collective passports. They will also require a packed breakfast and lunch, on the day of departure and a little pocket money (details will be explained nearer the time).

Reserving a Place

To reserve a place, please complete the online form below by Friday 26th September.

<https://forms.gle/9rSknuc9BUAF7LuD7>.

However, please be aware that should the number of interested pupils exceed 42, we will need to draw names at random from a hat to determine who will be able to attend. I fully understand that those whose names are not drawn may be disappointed, and I would like to emphasise the importance of discussing this possibility with your child before confirming your interest in the trip. We want to ensure that all pupils are aware of this process and that you as parents/carers support this decision.

Furthermore, as part of our commitment to maintaining a positive and supportive environment during school outings, it is important that pupils understand the need to behave in a responsible manner and listen to and follow instructions, as they do in school. If staff have concerns about the behaviour of individual pupils whilst they are at school, their opportunity to attend this trip may be subject to a satisfactory risk assessment being completed.

Payments

If your child is successful in gaining a place, then we will require a non-refundable deposit of **£192 by Friday 3rd October**. Once the deposits have been paid to the tour operator, they will **not be refundable**, unless your reason for cancelling is covered by insurance.

Four further payments will be required as detailed below. However, should you want to pay the full balance of £592, you can do so.

Friday 28th November 2025	£100
Friday 30th January 2026	£100
Friday 27th February 2026	£100
Friday 27th March 2026	£100

Our preferred method of payment is via "ParentPay"

Yours sincerely,



Mr G Hall
Deputy Headteacher