

10 February 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

LONDON-PARIS TRIP – UPDATE AND COVID VACCINATION INFORMATION

We are very pleased to be able to tell you that the London-Paris trip will finally go ahead - leaving on 27 June and returning on 1 July. Thank you for your patience with the postponements which have caused us all disruption.

There is now the necessary clearing of conditions of entry into France and return to the UK. We have also had parents ask whether full Covid-19 vaccination is required for pupils.

Below is an extract from the UK Government website. Please read this carefully. If you do not wish for your child to be vaccinated, which is a mandatory requirement, you should email me at a.watters@priory.lancs.sch.uk as soon as possible so we can discuss the next steps forward if you wish to withdraw your child from the trip. Currently vaccination for all children aged 12 and over is available free on the NHS with many local vaccination sites allowing you to walk-in for the first or second dose. All paperwork and Covid tests will be organised by the school after the Easter break in mid-April.

There have already been many successful trips of other Lancashire schools to France over the recent months. I will, again, be in touch with them to discuss further best practice. In addition, the travel company have themselves had great trips without hitches.

We will keep you up to date with the itinerary which remains very close to the original with all highlights remaining. The full itinerary and procedures involved will be outlined in detail in a parents/pupils/staff meeting in the second week after half term. The date will be sent out to you via letter and email to ensure you have every confidence in our plans.

Please ensure that your child's passport is up to date with a minimum of 6 months validity after 1 July 2022. We suggest that a new passport is needed if your child's expires before the end of 2022. Pupils will be required to bring their passport into school by 21 April so we can collate the details for the passenger lists and vaccination lists. We will store passports safely and ensure all GDPR regulations are observed.

Please read the UK Government information below:

From 14 January 2022, fully vaccinated (see 'Vaccination status' below) travellers from the UK must:

- *Present a negative PCR or antigen test result taken within 24 hours pre-departure if aged 12 years and over.*
- *Provide a completed 'sworn statement' (déclaration sur l'honneur) form self-certifying you're not suffering from symptoms associated with coronavirus and have not been in contact with confirmed cases in the preceding fortnight. This can be found on the French government's website.*



2.

From 14 January 2022, travellers who are not fully vaccinated will need to self-isolate on arrival in France for 10 days, subject to police checks. You must also provide:

- *a negative PCR or antigen test result taken within 24 hours pre-departure if aged 12 years and over.*
- *contact details before travel to France, including the address they will be staying at, to the French authorities via an online form.*
- *a completed international travel form to prove the reason for essential travel. This can be found on the French government's website. In exceptional circumstances, the French Consulate in London may be able to assist with travel for a compelling reason not listed as an 'essential reason for travel'.*
- *a completed 'sworn statement' (déclaration sur l'honneur) form self-certifying they are not suffering from symptoms associated with coronavirus and have not been in contact with confirmed cases in the preceding fortnight. This can be found on the French government's website.*

The same measures applied to vaccinated adults are applied to any minors (under 18) who are travelling with them, whether vaccinated or not. Therefore, if an unvaccinated child arrives in France with a vaccinated adult, they may follow the rules of entry for those who are fully vaccinated. Unvaccinated minors (aged 12–17) accompanied by unvaccinated adults or unaccompanied unvaccinated minors are subject to the same travel regulations as unvaccinated adults (PCR/antigen test less within 24 hours pre-departure, essential reason for travel, 'sworn statement', digital platform registration and self-isolation on arrival).

Children under 12 are exempt from all COVID-19 travel restrictions, but must still complete a 'sworn statement'. Further guidance can be found on the French government's website, and the French Embassy in the UK's website.

Please do contact me via email, in the first instance, to discuss any queries you have. I will arrange a call with yourself if that is needed.

Yours faithfully



Mr A Watters
Lead Teacher of Geography
Trip Leader

a.watters@priory.lancs.sch.uk