

26 February 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Thank you to each of you who were able to attend the parental briefing earlier this month. There were a number of points raised that I was unable to answer during the meeting, but I have since sourced the answers direct from NST.

Do the rooms in the hostel contain a safe?

There isn't a safe in the rooms, but they do have individual lockers within the room. Each student will need to take their own padlocks or buy one there.

Regarding travel insurance, is health insurance included?

Yes. However, if you have anyone with any medical requirements please do inform the insurance before they travel. This must be done by the parent. If these are not declared, they will not be covered (and that includes if they pull out before travel for the medical reason) Here is a link to the insurance documents, the phone number for Fogg can be found on the 2019 policy. (Situated at top right-hand corner of the document) <https://www.nstgroup.co.uk/insurance>

Do travellers require a printed copy of their ESTA to enter the USA?

It isn't a requirement to take a printed copy of their ESTA however for your own peace of mind, so you know everyone has done one I would suggest you ask them to bring one in.

What is the minimum length of validity required on passports to enter the USA?

Passports have to be valid until the day they return into the UK, however as natural disasters / flight cancellations can happen, if anyone's passport expires within a month of return I would suggest renewing this before travel.

I am aware that a number of you are having a range of difficulties completing the ETSA form. Please continue to inform me of problems and I will endeavour to find a solution as quickly as possible. A particular issue has been 'point of contact'. Please use the hotel information below to pass through this section:

<i>Hotel/Centre</i>	<i>Telephone</i>	<i>Board</i>	<i>Arrival</i>	<i>Departure</i>
<i>Hostelling International - New York 891 Amsterdam Avenue New York USA NY 10025</i>	<i>001 212 932 2300</i>	<i>Room Only</i>	<i>19/10/2019</i>	<i>22/10/2019</i>

Please See Overleaf

I would also like to take this opportunity to highlight the remaining scheduled payments for the tour as outlined below:

March 22 2019 £70.00	April 19 2019 £70.00	May 23 2019 £65.00	June 21 2019 £65.00
July 18 2019 £65.00	Interim payments will be accepted*		

**Parents are welcome to pay the balance at any time before each allocated payment on the schedule above.*

I invite you to get in contact with me should you require any further information at this stage on the email detailed below.

Yours Sincerely

Mr Matthew Ashton
ARTS FACULTY
matthewashton@westleigh.wigan.sch.uk