



Backwell School

An Ofsted Outstanding School
A National Teaching School

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Headteacher: Jon Nunes MA

October 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

German Exchange 2019

You may already know that the Modern Languages Department has a school link with the Camerloher Gymnasium in Freising near Munich with whom we have successfully run an exchange for a number of years. The exchange provides an excellent opportunity for your son/daughter to develop his/her language skills in a real life context and to experience staying with a German family.

A full programme of excursions and school-based activities has been planned which we hope will enhance students' vocabulary and language skills as well as being engaging and enjoyable. These activities also link in directly with areas covered in the GCSE syllabus for German. Apart from the curricular benefit, the exchange can have a wider influence in helping to develop a deeper understanding of similarities and differences, as well as shaping more positive, open and tolerant attitudes. In the past students have also benefitted from increased self-confidence.

The anticipated cost of the exchange will be approximately £380, dependent on final student numbers. Our provisional dates for the 2019 exchange are:

Freising party in Backwell: Thursday 28 March to Friday 5 April

Backwell party in Freising: Friday 12 to Friday 20 July

If you wish your son/daughter to take part, please return the slip at the bottom of this letter to the **Modern Languages Office by Friday, 19 October**. Once places have been confirmed we will be in contact regarding paying a deposit on ParentPay and a subsequent payment schedule and will provide you with an application form. The latter will enable us to match Backwell students with the Freising students. Please note that by returning the slip you are making a firm commitment to your son/daughter participating. In the past we have experienced problems when students have withdrawn, which have put us in a difficult position with our partners in Germany after they have gone ahead and booked flights.

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A meeting will be held for both parents and students before each leg of the exchange, but if you do require any further information at this stage, please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Yours sincerely,

C Maier
Modern Foreign Languages

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Please return to the Modern Foreign Language Department as soon as possible (deadline Friday, 19 October.)

Name of student _____ Tutor group _____

My son/daughter would like to take part in the 2019 German Exchange.

We would prefer to host: a boy a girl no preference

We would be prepared to host another student *in addition* to the exchange partner.

Signed: _____
(Parent/Carer)

Date: _____