



# HITCHIN GIRLS' SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mr J. E. Crowther

Ref: 114

16 January 2024

Dear Parent/Carer;

## A Level Business & Economics trip to New York, February 2025.

Thank you for your declaration of interest submitted, over the Christmas break. We can now move to the next phase and are able to request deposits to confirm the financial viability of the trip.

We remain confident that the cost of the trip including flights, accommodation, insurance, transfers, excursions and breakfast will be no more than £1,600 however until flight costs are confirmed this figure is still variable. Students will also be required to pay a \$21 ESTA fee to enter US border control and also take sufficient money to pay for lunch/evening meals/souvenirs/metro fees etc. We estimate a maximum of \$200 will be sufficient given recommendations from our agent but students may opt to take additional spending money if they wish. A more specific itinerary explaining the arrangements around meals will be provided closer to the leaving date. It should also be noted that students must have an e-Passport valid until at least August 2025.

We have 28 available spaces available on the trip and these will be limited to those that have declared their interest on the prior form. **In order for this trip to go ahead, we require a deposit from 28 families of £350 via Parentpay by Friday, 16 February 2024 with the remaining balance payable in stages: a payment schedule is detailed below.** The deposit is required at this stage in order to confirm the flights and accommodation.

£350	Deposit	16/02/2024
£350	Part-payment	03/05/2024
£450	Part-payment	05/07/2024
£450	Final payment	04/10/2024

Alternatively, payment can be made monthly with one payment of £350 deposit and monthly payments managed via ParentPay as long as key dates above are met. The trip is eligible for funding assistance through the Hitchin Educational Foundation (HEF) under certain circumstances; you should have already indicated on the expression of interest form if you will be requesting HEF funding. Students eligible for Pupil Premium funding or Sixth Form bursaries may be given priority.

If you intend to apply for HEF funding, please email [finance@hgs.herts.sch.uk](mailto:finance@hgs.herts.sch.uk) as soon as possible so that we can discuss the process with you and reserve a space if required.

**Places are allocated on a first come, first served basis** (unless HEF funding is being applied for via [finance@admin.hgs.herts.sch.uk](mailto:finance@admin.hgs.herts.sch.uk)) and a reserve list will be drawn up for any students not originally allocated a place. Confirmation of all places allocated will be advised shortly after February half term. If your child is not allocated a place, please contact [andrew.jones@hgs.herts.sch.uk](mailto:andrew.jones@hgs.herts.sch.uk) to be placed on a waiting list.



The itinerary shared on the December letter remains as follows presently;

As one of the largest cities in the world, and the financial hub of the western world, your child will experience first hand opportunities that may not be afforded to them elsewhere.

At this early stage, it is difficult to give a precise itinerary however the following events are scheduled:

- A once in a lifetime opportunity to visit The Chapin School, a partner school of HGS in Upper East Side, Manhattan to experience an education setting in another country and meet with their students and teachers.
- A tour of the financial district and skyscrapers of New York with visits to the NASDAQ stock exchange and New York Federal Reserve Bank, the largest gold depository in the world.
- A guided tour of Macy's department store to understand their marketing and promotional exercises and how they grew to become the number 1 department store in the US, followed by some shopping time!
- A visit to Madison Square Gardens where the students will learn about how one of the world's most famous concert and sporting venues keeps its clients happy and maximises profitability during their visit.
- A cultural opportunity to visit such iconic tourist destinations such as Times Square, The Empire State Building and One World Trade Centre.
- A unique 'Apprentice' style International Enterprise Challenge.
- An opportunity to enjoy some of New York's smaller businesses that contribute to such a thriving economy and offer such diverse cuisine.

Please only pay a deposit if you fully intend your daughter to be studying Business or Economics at Hitchin Girls' School next academic year and if they are likely to achieve the necessary entrance requirements to Sixth Form if they are in Year 11.

We hope you will agree that this is a once in a lifetime opportunity to experience many of the businesses and economies so frequently studied during A level Business and Economics first hand, while also giving the students a cultural experience they can remember and share for many years to come.

If you have any questions, I would be happy to answer them via email at [Andrew.jones@hgs.herts.sch.uk](mailto:Andrew.jones@hgs.herts.sch.uk) or telephone on 01462 621300. If you wish to confirm your child's place on the trip, please pay the £350 deposit payment via ParentPay by Friday, 16 February 2024 or contact the Finance Office if you intend to apply for funding via [finance@hgs.herts.sch.uk](mailto:finance@hgs.herts.sch.uk)

Once numbers are confirmed and the trip can proceed, I will invite all parents to attend a meeting in the Autumn term of 2024 to confirm specific arrangements and answer any questions or concerns. We hope to welcome your child on this once in a lifetime trip.

Yours sincerely



Mr A Jones  
Deputy Headteacher