



Thursday 30th April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Year 8 History Trip to Oxford Castle

Description of trip: The centrepiece of the visit is a workshop that puts Mary Blandy on trial. Pupils will need to use their investigative skills and the historical evidence to decide if Mary was guilty or not of her infamous crime. This is based on a real murder case at Oxford and it allows pupils to investigate crime and punishment in the mid-18th century. This supports our work in lessons on the changes to crime and punishment from the early modern period through to the end of the 19th century. We will also have a tour of the castle to investigate how its use has changed over time.

Date: Monday 13th July 2026.

Location: 44-46 Oxford Castle, Oxford, OX1 1AY.

Travel arrangements: Students will meet in the Hall at 8:45am. They should register with their tutor before coming to the Hall. We will travel by public bus into Oxford. We will be arriving back at school by 3:15pm.

Meal arrangements: Pupils will need to bring a (nut-free) packed lunch with them. They will not be able to buy food from venues in and around the castle. Students entitled to Free School Meals may claim, **in advance**, a free school packed lunch through the trip leader.

Dress code: Students are required to wear their school uniform.

Costs: The trip will launch on ParentPay on a first come, first served basis. If you haven't already activated your ParentPay account, please do so now. If you need an activation code, please contact: finance@gosfordhillschool.org. The cost of the trip is £8.50, to be paid by Friday 22nd May. **Please not that this cost does not include money for the return bus trip into Oxford. Pupils will need to bring cash or a card on the day to pay their own bus fare.** This is approximately £2.30 and is subject to change.

An electronic consent form will be sent to you separately via email after payment has been received. All medical and emergency contact information will be taken from the data held on your child's record. Please check your MyChildAtSchool app under data collection for medical and parental contact details. If any information requires updating, please email: admissions@gosfordhillschool.org.

In accordance with Gosford Hill School's Charges and Remissions Policy, this activity cannot be funded without these voluntary contributions. If insufficient contributions are raised, then the trip may have to be



cancelled. If you have any queries about the cost or wish to apply for financial assistance, please contact the Finance Department at Gosford Hill School.

Please note that Gosford Hill School reserves the right to cancel the place of any student whose behaviour does not give the school the confidence to trust the student to act responsibly at all times. In the event of such cancellation, any payment is non-refundable.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs H Fuglesang
Teacher of History