



Founded 1125

Dear Parents/Guardians

22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023

### **Year 10 and Sixth Form Spanish Exchange – Albacete, Spain**

**First Leg: English Students in Spain – Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2024 – Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024**  
**Second Leg: Spanish Students in England – Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024 - Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

Reading School is planning an exchange to support the work currently covered in the GCSE and A-Level Spanish course. This is not a compulsory element of the course, however we recommend that students participate, as the oral component of the GCSE and A-Level examination is very important. This exchange brings a completely new opportunity to our students and we are fully convinced that the experience will benefit their communication skills enormously.

We are very fortunate that Reading School has recently linked Colegio CEDES in Albacete, Spain bringing a wider opportunity to our students. One of the reasons we decided to create the link with Colegio CEDES was the fact that Mr Sánchez grew up and completed his Baccalaureate a few years ago so we have evidence of their best practice. This particular independent school has a 'Bilingual section' where most subjects are taught in English. The exchange will provide a privileged insight into such a school and the Spanish way of life in general. A placement is also organised in a Spanish local primary school for A Level students. Year 10 students will have a different program which includes attending lessons in Spanish, trips and activities in the local area. Students will stay with families and will be exposed to Spanish culture and use their Spanish skills to communicate.

During the exchange you are expected to offer the Spanish student full board for a week, including the weekend when the student will stay with you to experience the lifestyle of a family in the UK, and parents in Spain will be expected to give the same amount of care to our pupils. Current regulation states that DBS checks must be undertaken for a designated adult who lives at your address, these forms will be provided to families for completion at a later stage. Please note that these regulations are not applicable in Spain, but the Headmaster Francisco Navarro Tercero assures the families chosen to host our pupils are approved by him to make your son's experience fully enjoyable and they will undertake internal checks with the families involved.

Reading School students will travel to Spain on **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January**, and return to England on **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January**. Spanish students will visit England on **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February** and return to Spain on **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February**.

As a host family you will be responsible for offering board and lodging and for ensuring safe travel arrangements for your guest. Reading School will make all the arrangements for our A-level students to complete their work experience abroad.

An information meeting for all parents and students will be held prior to the departure of the trip.

**The trip cost is still to be confirmed** but we are expecting the cost to be around £700. This would include:

**READING SCHOOL, Erleigh Road, Reading RG1 5LW**

T: 0118 9015600 F: 0118 9352755 E: [secretary@reading-school.co.uk](mailto:secretary@reading-school.co.uk) W: [www.reading-school.co.uk](http://www.reading-school.co.uk)

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- Return flight and coach travel to and from the airports
- Stay with the host families in Spain on full board basis which is reciprocated in the UK
- Excursions, evening activities and entrance fees
- The **payment plan and final cost for the trip will be confirmed in September 2023.**

An exact itinerary will be available before departure

**Please note no money is being taken at this stage and the expression of interest is not binding at this stage.**

Please express your interest using the form below

<https://forms.office.com/e/JW2n9JT5Hw>

Please note that your son will have to be in the possession of an EHIC/GHIC Card and a Passport valid for the proposed duration of the stay and photocopies of these will be requested at the next stage.

Please note that parents are responsible for ensuring a student's eligibility to travel and that any additional VISA required will have to be arranged by parents at your own cost. Since the pandemic and Brexit there have been some changes to international travel rules.

Under the Education Reform Act, the costs of the visit must be met by voluntary contributions. The visit can only take place if the parents of all participating pupils are prepared voluntarily to meet the full cost. There is no obligation to pay the voluntary contributions, but we must make it clear the trip will not take place if parents are reluctant to support it as there are no other funds available to finance the trip. Cases of financial hardship will be dealt with sympathetically and confidentially by the school. Please contact me on the email address below.

There are certain precautions we must take before taking your child on the proposed visit. In respect of Health & Safety regulations and insurance, we require the assurance of yourself and your child that the rules of behaviour set out in the Code of Conduct for Educational Visits will be adhered to both before and during the visit.

You will appreciate that the school has no control over the tour operators, airlines, hotels and other organisations involved. By reserving a place on the tour you and your son accept that the School has no responsibility for the default of the tour operators or other organisations and that in the event of an Act of God or any other circumstance whether involving health and safety, security, behaviour or otherwise, the School can in its discretion curtail, cancel or revise the tour at any time without recompense.

We hope your son will be able to join us on this exciting trip. If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me at [jsanchez@reading-school.co.uk](mailto:jsanchez@reading-school.co.uk)

Yours sincerely,

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**J Escribano Sanchez**  
**Teacher of Spanish**

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