



18 November 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

## **European Space Centre Trip to Belgium** (*Thursday 8 October – Monday 12 October 2026*)

I am writing to advise you of a fantastic opportunity for your child. We are organising our second residential trip to the [European Space Centre \(ESC\)](#) situated in Belgium.

The dates of the residential are Thursday 8 October 2026 until Monday 12 October 2026. We plan to leave school at around 11pm on the Thursday evening to travel to Dover where we will catch the early ferry on the Friday morning. We anticipate being back at school for around 1.30am on Tuesday 13 October. The trip includes:

- 2 full days of activities, simulators and workshops at ESC
- Visit to P&J Chocolate shop with workshop.
- Torch lit tour of Boullion Castle
- Visit to Caves of Han on day 2 with lunch
- 3 nights on-site accommodation at ESC, in en-suite dormitories

The total cost of the residential will be £695. This price includes all activities, travel, transfers, accommodation and meals whilst on site at the space centre. The only need for additional spending money will be for the visit to the chocolate factory and shop, the gift shop at the end of the castle tour and the onsite gift shop at the space centre. A sum of between €30-60 should be sufficient. It may also be worth sending your child with a small amount of British sterling to buy food either on the journey to or from the space centre in Belgium; a sum of around £30 should be sufficient.

There is a maximum number of 54 places for this trip. If there are more students than this wanting to go, names will be selected at random. We reserve the right to refuse permission for any student to go on this trip in cases where a student's conduct at school has not been acceptable, including in the time up to the date of departure, by giving you a full refund. In addition, all students must have a good attendance record (unless there are mitigating circumstances).

To secure a place for your child, we request a deposit of £100 per student. The deadline for the deposit is Friday 28 November and should be paid via the ParentPay website. Payment of the deposit does not guarantee a place on the trip as this is also subject to approval by the school. If you were unsuccessful for whatever reason, the deposit will be fully refunded.

All students will need their own individual passport and GHIC/EHIC. If your child does not have a passport, it is essential that you apply for this in plenty of time.

There will be an additional letter after the closing date to inform you of whether your child has secured a place on the trip and to confirm payment deadlines. **If your child is successful in getting a place on the trip, please note all payments are non-refundable.**

If you would like to find out some more information about the residential, you are welcome to attend the trip **information evening at school at 5.30pm in the theatre on Tuesday 25 November.**

If you have any questions or need further information, please do get in touch. My email is [graingerd@hallparkacademy.org.uk](mailto:graingerd@hallparkacademy.org.uk)

Yours faithfully

Mr D Grainger  
**Head of Science**