



Altrincham Grammar School for Boys

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Head Master: Mr G A Wright M.A. (Hons) FRSA

November 2022

Orlando March/April 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Following the successful Biology Trip to Orlando Florida in March 2018, we are pleased to announce that this trip will run again in 2024 and be open to pupils currently in Years 7, 8 and 9.

This trip has a packed itinerary full of educational opportunities related to Biology as well as entertainment at world renowned Theme Parks. Pupils will experience a wide range of activities from an opportunity to swim with manatees and sampling for marine organisms in the Gulf of Mexico to enjoying the thrills of The Wizarding World of Harry Potter™ at Universal Studios.

We will travel during the first half of the Easter break 2024. Trip dates will be from Thursday 28th March 2024 to Wednesday 3rd April 2024.

This has proved a popular trip and places are allocated on a **first come first served basis** so please register as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. **Pupils that apply after the first 40 will be added to a Waiting List.** **Please note we cannot accept any applications entered before 6pm on the day the letter is issued.** Please see section below on the application process.

- Accommodation will be on Universal Boulevard at The Comfort Inn Maingate, Orlando (breakfast and evening meals included)
- Return flights and transfers from Manchester to Orlando and transfers in the USA
- Entry to two Disney Resorts, Universal Studios
- The Manatee experience
- All activities listed in the itinerary below
- Travel Insurance

The total cost will be **£2275** (with 11 payments spread over a 13-month period after the deposit) and will include all activities listed on the itinerary overleaf:

Additional Expenses

- Transport to and from Manchester Airport. (Pupils make their way to and from Manchester Airport)
- ESTA processing fee (\$21 US). Please see below for further details.
- Spending money for lunch and drinks during the day

ITINERARY

Swimming with Manatees. A unique experience, and an option to join a small group snorkelling adventure with these gentle creatures.

MOTE Aquarium visit. A trip to this aquarium and rescue centre based in beautiful Sarasota Bay to learn about Marine Biology and conservation. The day will include a tour of the aquarium and the opportunity to see Manatees. We will visit the Gulf of Mexico and pupils will sample for marine organisms. This is followed by a workshop on Marine CSI - analyzing a mystery skeleton, discovering animal adaptations, biology and osteology along the way.

2 days at Disney:

- **Participation in Educational Programme at Disney's EPCOT Centre.** A theme park with a scientific focus including Future World, which features technological innovations. Students will explore themes closely linked to the GCSE such as hydroponics and tissue culture and how these are used to help with sustainable production of food.
- **Animal Kingdom.** Pupils encounter exotic animals and exciting adventures at Disney's Animal Kingdom Park, one of the largest animal theme parks in the world. Home to more than 2,000 animals across 300 species and a range of fantastic rides, musical theatre shows and 4D cinema experiences.

Universal Studios and Islands of Adventure. A day of fun at this renowned theme park which includes world class rollercoasters, movie sets and characters as well as the magical experience in The Wizarding World of Harry Potter™ - Diagon Alley™ and a trip on the Hogwarts™ Express!

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply for this trip please visit the **Parents' section** of the school website www.agsb.co.uk and complete the online ***Residential Trip Application Form for Orlando March 2024.***

PLEASE EXPRESS YOUR INTEREST BY MONDAY 14th NOVEMBER 2022.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

DEPOSIT

Once all the applications have been processed and your son's place confirmed you will be asked to pay an immediate deposit payment of £200 via ParentPay by Friday 30 November. *This deposit will be non-refundable.*

REMAINING COST

The remainder of the cost will be spread over 11 payments over a 13-month period.

1 February 2023 and ending 1 January 2024 (EXCLUDING December 2023 and December 2024) with scheduled payments as follows:

Month	Amount £	Month	Amount £
1 February 2023	275	1 August 2023	180
1 March 2023	180	1 September 2023	180
1 April 2023	180	1 October 2023	180
1 May 2023	180	1 November 2023	180
1 June 2023	180	1 January 2024	180
1 July 2023	180	TOTAL	2075

We wish to make it clear that if the visit takes place, no student will be denied participation on the grounds that no contribution has been made on their behalf. However, please be aware, if insufficient contributions are made we will be unable to proceed with the trip.

If your child is in receipt of Pupil Premium (excluding Service Pupil Premium), AGSB will provide financial support using a funding formula. More details can be found [here](#) in the Pupil Premium section of the school website (*Students who receive Pupil Premium may also be eligible to reclaim any transportation costs which are not included in the overall trip price, by submitting a claim form using the above link. If your child receives Free School Meals and any lunches are not provided as part of the trip, you will receive a food allowance prior to departure*).

Additional Information

- Please read our new terms and conditions sheet attached which contains **important information** regarding medical, passports, GHIC and Covid compliance etc.
- **ESTA Requirements**
It is now a mandatory requirement when travelling to the USA to register for Electronic Travel Authority and receive travel authorisation via ESTA prior to travel.
Please visit <https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov>

If you would like any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Ms S Blaize in the Biology Department.

Yours sincerely

Ms S Blaize

Biology Department