



Outwood Academy Newbold

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Chief Executive Officer Sir Michael Wilkins

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8 July 2016

Dear Parent/Carer,

On Wednesday 6 July we had our last student US trip meeting before the summer break. In the meeting I promised to write to you to ensure you are fully up to speed on the information given in the meeting. This letter outlines everything we discussed with your son/daughter.

ESTA

I have included further information about how to apply for the ESTA (Visa Waiver) at the bottom of this letter. The key information needed for your son/daughters application is below. It is essential that this ESTA is applied for by the end of the summer break. If you have any queries over the summer please email me at: c.schulze@newbold.outwood.com

- US point of contact – Comfort Inn By the Bay, 2775 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco, CA, 94109-1497, US
- Address while in the US – Comfort Inn By the Bay, 2775 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco, CA, 94109-1497, US
- Emergency contact information in the US –
Focus Travel
216 East 45th Street
Suite 1204
New York, NY 10017
Telephone: 00 1 212 972 9099

Outstanding payments

Just a polite reminder that the deadline for the total balance to be paid is 14 July 2016. Again if you envisage having any difficulties in adhering to this deadline please email me as soon as possible

Passports

We now have all passports in – many thanks for sorting this so promptly

Dietary requirements

Students have completed a medical form, we have also collected dietary requirements for the in-flight meals.

Parents evening about the US trip

We will be hosting a parent's event on 21 September 2016 at 5:30 in the Main Hall. Please try to ensure that you can attend this with your son/daughter as essential information will be shared during this event.

Coach transfer to the airport

We have now secured our coach transfer to the airport, further details of the (early) meet time will be shared on 21 September. In our meeting we discussed that we hoped that this would be able to be covered in the contingency we allowed for any fluctuations of flight prices. At the moment we are pleased to report that this does seem to be the case. This again will be confirmed in our September meeting.

Kind regards

Clare Schulze

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REGULATIONS FOR TRAVEL TO THE USA

All persons travelling to the USA under the visa waiver programme from 12 January 2009 must have obtained travel authorisation using the Electronic System for Travel Authorisation (ESTA).

You must have obtained authorisation at least 72 hours before departure. This requirement is in addition to the submission of APIS (Additional Passport Information) data which is still required. Authorisation is valid for 2 years.

Each individual traveller must register on-line and we recommend the following site which should take you directly to the official US government site:

<https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov/esta>

Please note the US Government charges for this application. The current cost is \$14.00 per person.

Once on the site each traveller will need to provide the information required and obtain authorisation. It is recommended to print off a hard copy of the authorisation number although this is not compulsory. If your electronic travel authorisation is approved, this approval establishes that you are eligible to travel to the United States under the Visa Waiver Program, but does not guarantee that you are admissible to the United States. Upon arrival you will be inspected by a Customs and Border Protection officer at a port of entry who may determine that you are inadmissible under the Visa Waiver Program or for any reason under United States law.

The information required includes personal information and passport information. For this reason no one other than the applicant should complete the form. Some of the information e.g. phone numbers, flight details and accommodation details are optional and therefore do not have to be completed. Please note that at the time of writing the system does not recognise UK phone numbers so this field cannot be meaningfully completed, but is in any case optional. In the event of any difficulties the site contains a comprehensive help section and the ability to submit questions for on-line help.

New rules passed by the US Congress on 18 December 2015 will exclude from the VWP most people who have travelled to **Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria or Yemen** since March 2011, as well as those who have dual nationality of these countries. And with effect from 1 April 2016, anyone travelling to the US under the VWP will need to have a passport with an integrated chip (an ePassport).

All clients travelling will require ESTA authorisation or a visa in order to start their journey to the USA. Please refer to the Help link of the above website for a list of countries participating in the Visa Waiver Program. It is the responsibility of each client to obtain the necessary documentation to satisfy the US immigration authorities.



UK passport displaying ePassport symbol

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