

Your French Exchange Needs YOU !

After a highly successful first exchange to the Collège Louis Leprince Ringuet in Genas, we are now in the early stages of organising our second exchange. As last time, the French will be visiting us in May, from the 1st to the 12th. We will travel to Genas in late September, early October - dates TBC.

But there is a snag - despite the fantastic experience our first set of exchange pupils had two years ago, **we are still 5 bodies short. We need either more pupils to take part in the exchange [preferably], or at the very least, volunteers to host a French pupil** - volunteers who do not want to take part in the full exchange.

Can I please encourage parents to think about the benefits of an exchange for your children [S2-S3]. It is not absolutely necessary for your child to be studying French. We will be on the doorstep of France's second city, designated by UNESCO as a world heritage site - but we will be staying in a small dormitory town 5 minutes from the St Exupery international airport.

Whatever your child's proficiency in French, there are huge benefits to be gained from a pupil exchange, because this is very much a life experience. Young people come back from such a trip with, amongst other things, a far better sense of who they are, and with a much improved sense of self confidence. They get this through having met and lived with new people in a new, similar, and yet surprisingly different culture.

The cost of the trip for those undertaking the whole experience is £500. This may of course be paid for in instalments over the course of the year. This cost covers all travel to and from Lyon, and all coach trips and entry fees in Scotland and in France. For those who are only interested in hosting a French child, there will be no fee.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at school. If your child has any questions, the best thing is to speak to any of the pupils who took part in the first exchange - they will give a far more accurate pupils' eye view than I ever could!

A Clarke
PT Modern Languages