



**Mercia School**  
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Headteacher: Mr Dean Webster  
Chair of Governors: Mrs Rhona Dodds

Our ref: JF/GD

27 March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Cancellation of Normandy 2020/Basel 2020**

Firstly, I wish to convey the school's thanks for your ongoing support and understanding during this exceptionally difficult time. The feedback and encouragement from families has been really uplifting and we are very grateful. I hope you and your family are keeping well as we stand up to the challenge we are currently facing.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, it is with deep sadness that Mercia School has decided to cancel all overseas trips this academic year. This includes the trips to Normandy (Year 7) and Basel (Year 8).

I have no doubt you will understand why this decision has been taken. Our first responsibility as a school is to keep children safe and, in the current climate, an overseas trip simply wasn't a safe option for our pupils.

The school is now in the process of securing refunds. Please be assured the school will be doing all it can to secure full refunds. We will endeavour to return funds as quickly as possible, but we appreciate your patience in this matter. Travel companies are dealing with a huge number of trip cancellations nationwide and consequently this process will take some time.

Be rest assured, this is a challenging time for families and we will push the relevant companies to reimburse funds as rapidly as possible.

Both trips will run in the academic year 2020/21, presuming that the current pandemic has passed and it is safe to do so. All pupils will retain their place and we will look to add further places if it is possible.

I thank you for your understanding. We are very disappointed, but know this is the right decision in the interests of the pupils and their safety.

Yours sincerely,

**Joshua G. Fisher**  
Deputy Headteacher