

Wednesday 15 January 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

We have listened to feedback from parents in regards to our Japan trip. We have decided to move this trip to October 2026, giving parents more time to pay for this trip and the payment plan to be spread across 20 months. We have 31 places available on this trip. As a reminder, the cost of the trip will be £2,450.00. This includes all flights, transfers, hotel, cost of all activities, transport in Japan and food (excluding airport meals) We do not have exact dates for this trip as it is so far in advance. At this stage, we are expressing interest to determine the level of enthusiasm for this trip.

Before expressing interest, as before we would like to outline some important points for consideration:

‘Pros’ of the Trip:

- **Cultural Exposure:** This trip provides an invaluable opportunity for students to immerse themselves in Japan's rich history, culture, and modern society.
- **Educational Value:** Students will engage in a variety of educational activities, including visits to museums, historical sites, and cultural landmarks.
- **Building Global Awareness:** Experiencing life in Japan will help broaden students’ perspectives, fostering a deeper understanding of the world.
- **Unforgettable Memories:** The trip promises to be a life-changing experience for all involved, creating lasting memories and friendships.

‘Cons’ of the Trip:

- **Cost:** The price of the trip may be a barrier for some families. We understand that this is a significant expense and will explore fundraising opportunities and payment plans to help make the trip more accessible.
- **Walking:** Your child will be walking approximately 20,000 steps per day.
- **Mobile phones:** These will be limited to structured activities
- **Travel and crowd:** Your child will be using public transport and crowds and streets can be extremely busy
- **Food and smells:** Your child will be exposed to new smells and foods of the country.

Next Steps:

If there is sufficient interest in the trip, we will move forward with an application process for students. This will include an evaluation based on factors such as:

- **Behaviour and conduct** at the academy,
- **Personal commitment** to the trip,
- **Specific needs** or requirements for students to ensure they can fully participate and enjoy the experience.

Once we have a clear picture of interest, we will provide further details and outline the next steps for application, including deadlines, payment schedules, and additional trip information.

If you are interested in this trip, please email Japan2026@thesuttonacademy.org.uk by **20 January** to express your interest. This will help us gauge the number of participants and assess the viability of organising the trip.

We look forward to hearing from you and we are excited about the possibility of giving our students the opportunity to explore Japan.

Yours faithfully

D. McBirney

Mrs D. McBirney
Curriculum Leader of Art and Design

