

Germany Exchange

For the ninth year we have completed our exchange program with our German partner school, "Gymnasium Finkenwerder" in Hamburg.

Nine students from Years 9 and 10 went to Germany to stay with an exchange partner. As every year, we were met with fantastic hospitality from the school as well as the guest families.

Over the course of the week in Hamburg, our students spent some time in school with their German partners, but because the German school had their project week, we all spent time together finding out about German culture, food, music, sport and the city of Hamburg.



During the return visit, the German students stayed with their partners in Stevenage, spent some time at Marriotts, and we all went on excursions to Cambridge and London together.

Here is what some of the students thought of the experience:

"The day I was given the letter I was adamant that I didn't want to go. But I am proud I did as it was a great experience and helped a lot with my progress for my GCSE German. We went on a range of trips to Cambridge and London and did the high ropes at Fairlands. When we were in Germany we visited Hamburg, the St. Pauli football stadium and much more. You also notice a lot of difference in school and in the homes. The house I stayed in was massive. Their school was tiny compared to ours, and the children go to school in normal clothes and are allowed to go out for lunch. You would definitely regret not going!"

Phoebe

"The German exchange was a real eye opener. Not only did I meet so many friends for life, I could also experience the difference between German and British culture. The brilliant program also helped me enhance my German speaking by engaging in conversations day to day, of course, the fantastic trips to Cambridge and London were a great bonus, but did not compare to the quality time spent with some amazing people."

Sam

"After already taking part in the German Exchange last year, I was not at all nervous because of how much I enjoyed it last year. I had a really good friendship with my partner and although it was a little bit awkward being in his house the first day, we soon got to know each other and I had a great time. On both sides of the trip we had interesting and fun days out and we both learned lots about each other's cultures. As well as being fun, my trips to Germany and talking with a German have really helped me in my German lessons. To any students who are given the opportunity to take this trip, I recommend it."

Jamie

“At the beginning I was a little fearful of going to a different school but in the end I was okay. It was a great experience because I made new friends and met people with similar hobbies and interests as me. People were very caring and kind and I learned a bit. When they came to England I was still learning because I would try to say things in German to practise. In the end, I really enjoyed it and I would definitely go again or visit my original partner again.”

Ethan

