



5 November 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

**Re: Year 10 PRE Candle Conference Trip - London**

I would like to offer your son or daughter the opportunity to attend a conference in London on Friday 1 February 2019.

The conference will provide students with an invaluable opportunity to engage with their GCSE content in a different setting. Candle Conferences was founded in 2010 by Dr Peter Vardy, former Vice Principle of Heythrop College, a specialist Philosophy and Theology College that is part of the University of London. Their aim is to help young people develop their potential by thinking deeply and well. They have worked with more than 100,000 students across over 1,000 schools. The aim is to add value to a student's education and help to prepare them for life beyond school. Students who previously attended said they found the course inspiring and beneficial for their GCSE. This year the sessions focus on a variety of topics that students have studied, including Christian beliefs, stewardship and the environment, medical ethics, and relationships.

We will meet students at Shenfield station on the Friday morning, where we will catch a train into Liverpool Street. From there we will take the underground to Tottenham Court Road, where the event is being held. Students will need an Oyster Card or money to purchase a ticket on the day. Students will need to bring a packed lunch and refreshments with them. The session begins at 10:30am and will finish shortly before 4.00 pm. Therefore, we will meet at 9.00am to be on the train for 9:15am. We will return to Shenfield around 5.00pm.

The trip will cost £20 per student and will be led by myself and another member of St Martin's staff. Places on the trip will be randomly allocated by computer to ensure fairness. You do not need to enclose a payment at this stage. If your son or daughter is successful in gaining a place, you will be informed when the payment is due. **Please note that payments made are non-refundable.**

If you are interested in your son or daughter participating, please complete the attached consent form with full medical information and dietary requirements and returned to the Finance Office by Wednesday 14 November when the places will be allocated.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me via the school email: [dshoker@st-martins.essex.sch.uk](mailto:dshoker@st-martins.essex.sch.uk)

Yours sincerely

Mr D Shoker  
**Trip Leader**