



4<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Dear Parent / Carer,

## Germany Trip, 16<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> July 2025 GHIC Cover Requirement & Passport

Further to the acceptance of your child's place on trip to Germany, taking place during Enrichment Week in July 2025, I would like to bring to your attention the requirement of a GHIC Card cover for your child.

The UK Global Health Insurance Card (GHIC) lets you get necessary state healthcare in the European Economic Area (EEA) and some other countries, on the same basis as a resident of that country. A UK GHIC is free and lasts for up to 5 years.

Having a card in a student's possession during our trip is an essential requirement of our Local Authority's travel insurance coverage, which is already included in the price of the trip. Please note, without this free cover in place, your child will not be able to attend the trip.

Obtaining the card is simple and free of charge, when applied for directly via the NHS website. Use of third-party providers may incur an unnecessary cost.

<https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/healthcare-abroad/apply-for-a-free-uk-global-health-insurance-card-ghic/>

Additionally, given the length of time passport renewals take, I would urge to check the expiry date of your child's passport now in case it needs to be renewed. In order to enter Germany, students' passports must have at least 3 months validity remaining from the date they leave the country. However, to minimise the risk of any problems arising when entering the country, please ensure your child's passport is not due to expire before **20<sup>th</sup> January 2026** (6 months remaining). Should the passport expire before this date, please can you arrange for this to be renewed.

Please can the application for GHIC be made as soon as possible and then a copy of the card and passport be provided to me by email, no later than 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025.

If you have any queries or wish to discuss these requirements further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

**Miss C McCullough**

Trip Leader

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