



Altrincham Grammar School for Boys

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Head Master: Mr G A Wright M.A. (Hons) FRSA

March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Houston Space Centre Trip October 2025

When: October half term 2025 – exact dates yet to be confirmed

Where: Houston, Texas. USA

Eligibility: Open to all pupils who will be in year 10 and 11 in the academic year 2025/2026 (currently in year 8 and 9 – academic year 2023/2024)

I am delighted to be able to invite your son to apply to take part in the 2025 AGSB trip to NASA in Houston. There will be an incredible program of events for pupils to engage in that I am sure will prove challenging and rewarding. Please see the provisional itinerary below.

Texas Space STEM - Johnson Space Center, Houston, Texas						
		Morning		Afternoon		Evening
1	Sun	Fly to Houston; Check into Hotel; Welcome, Safety & Orientation Meeting				Dinner on Own
2	Mon	NASA Tram Tour - Space Vehicle Mock-Up Facility & Orion Mission Control	Rocket Presentation & Construction	Thermal Tile & Cryogenics; Swing Test & Safety	Pizza Night at Hotel	
3	Tues	Thermal Tile & Cryogenics Challenge / Silvermoon	Natural Buoyancy Lab Tour	SCUBA Session & Underwater Robotics Challenge at Williams Pool	Luby's Restaurant	Cinema Night
4	Wed	NASA Guest Speaker Presentation	VEX Robotics & VEX End Effector Build Challenge	Coding Challenge & Competition	Mars Yard End Effector Competition	Dinner & Bowling at the Main Event
5	Thur	Rocket Safety / Rocket Launch / Rocket Park Tour / Rocket Debrief	Mars Habitat Presentation	Mars Habitat Challenge & Presentations		Salata
6	Fri	Independence Plaza Tour	Brunch with an Astronaut & Presentation	Starship Gallery Tour	Graduation & Awards Presentation	Baybrook Mall
7	Sat	Indoor Skydiving activity - I Fly Physics masterclass and 2 jumps		Depart for Home		

The trip will depart from Manchester airport over October half term 2025 when pupils in the current year 8 will be in year 10 and those currently in year 9 will be in year 11. Half term dates are yet to be confirmed but we are likely to be flying out on Sunday 15th and return on Saturday 23rd October. You will be responsible for getting your son to the airport and picking them up upon their return. Exact timings and itinerary will be confirmed nearer the time of departure.

Cost

The cost of the trip will be £2675 payable in 6 instalments. This covers all travel (except to and from Manchester airport), accommodation and all meals whilst on the trip. Unfortunately, there will be an additional charge of £88.00 APD (Air Passenger Duty) tax charged per passenger aged 16 that may affect some of the older pupils in year 9.

We wish to make it clear that if the visit takes place, no student will be denied participation on the grounds that no contribution has been made on their behalf. However, please be aware, if insufficient contributions are made we will be unable to proceed with the trip. Full details about Pupil Premium and/or Bursary support for trips can be found on our website [here](#).

Application process

Please discuss this with your child and if you wish them to take part in this trip, please can you complete an Expression of Interest Form using this [link](#). Once numbers are confirmed, we will email to request you to complete the Trip Form and to pay any deposit/full payment via ParentPay. **Deadline for applications is by 9am on Monday 16th April 2024.**

Additional information

Please read our new terms and conditions sheet attached which contains **important information** regarding medical, passports, EHIC and Covid compliance etc.

If you would like any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at school on ssquire@agsb.co.uk.

Yours faithfully

Dr Steven Squire
Head of Science