



# Bishop's Hatfield Girls' School

Headteacher: Mr A Wood BA (Oxon), PGCE, MBA, NPQH  
Woods Avenue, Hatfield, Herts AL10 8NL T: 01707 275331

Email: [admin@bishophatfield.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@bishophatfield.herts.sch.uk) Website: [www.bishophatfield.herts.sch.uk](http://www.bishophatfield.herts.sch.uk)

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20th January 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

## Year 11 Theatre Trip to see *To Kill a Mockingbird* - Wednesday 29th March 2023

As part of your child's GCSE Drama course they must watch a piece of live theatre to then review in their written exam in May/June 2023. Therefore, we have secured tickets to see the acclaimed performance of *To Kill a Mockingbird* at the Gielgud Theatre in London. It is a matinee performance starting at 2.00pm. We will travel by train, leaving school at 12.00 and returning to Hatfield train station. We will be due to arrive back at Hatfield station at approximately **6:00pm**. As we will not be returning to school when we arrive back at Hatfield Train Station, please complete the form below to state how your child will make their way home. Your child must wear a full school uniform for this trip but trainers are advised as we will be walking to the train station from school. A portion of our journey will be via the London Underground. Travel costs are included in the price of the trip. Lunch will be early and will need to be a **packed lunch** that will be eaten at school before we leave for the train station. Those pupils who are FSM will be provided with a school packed lunch.

The cost of this event will be **£35**. Please make payment, via WisePay, by **Friday 24th March**. Part of the ticket price is being subsidised by the school as we are acutely aware of the current financial strain on families. However, if you feel you are able to pay the full ticket price, that would be much appreciated. The total cost will be £41. If your child is in receipt of free school meals, 50% of the costs will be met by the school. For pupils in receipt of Pupil Premium whose families are experiencing financial difficulties, please contact Mrs Jackson at [mjackson@bishophatfield.herts.sch.uk](mailto:mjackson@bishophatfield.herts.sch.uk) as some assistance may be given on a case by case basis. If you are able and would like to, there is also the option to purchase an additional space for a disadvantaged pupil.

As you may already know, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, which is set in 1930s America, deals with a number of controversial and sensitive issues, such as sexism and racism. Many pupils rightly feel uncomfortable with the issue of racial discrimination; in particular, the use of offensive language. I have broached this subject with the group and reminded them of the origins of the language, which they would have learnt about in Year 9 when studying *Of Mice and Men*. This trip is a fantastic opportunity for students to see a 5 star play with a diverse cast of brilliant actors which will give them a tremendous understanding of how meaning is created in theatre. The controversial nature of the play allows students the opportunity to have mature and thought provoking discussions, meaning they will be able to write more personal and critical evaluations in their GCSE exam. Being exposed to this content remains crucial in educating young people about tolerance, racial prejudice, and empathy. I would like to reassure you that these issues are being dealt with sensitively within lessons and the play has an age rating of 15+. If you or your child would like to find out more about the play, please follow this link <https://www.tokillamockingbird.co.uk/>.

Yours sincerely,  
Miss H Ekins (subject leader for Drama)

**"This is an OUTSTANDING school" - Ofsted 2016**



**Year 11 Theatre Trip - Wednesday 29th March**

Name of child:..... form:.....

- I give permission for my child to walk home from Hatfield station by themselves
- I will be collecting my child from Hatfield Train Station

Signed (parent/carer).....

Please give this form to your child so they can return it to **Miss Ekins** by **Friday 24th March**.