

Our Ref: 017/19

Dear Parent/ Guardian,

As a member of the St Margaret's AG&T Debating Society, your son is invited to take part in the annual Gifted and Talented Conference. The full programme of events can be found on the reverse of this letter. There will be a number of Lectures from University Professors and an open debate on the role of monarchy. Our year 10 debate team will be preparing an argument for this debate.

The event will take place on **FRIDAY 15th March 2019** at the Friends' Meeting House, Manchester. We will meet at St Margaret's at **8:30** am and will return to school at approximately **5pm**.

It is hoped that this conference will improve students' self- confidence and prepare younger students for more formal debate competitions next year. The event is intended for very able and academic KS4 and KS5 students, and will cover some very challenging material. Feedback from other students has been very positive, and teachers have commented that ***"We did some feedback with our students after the conference and 100% found the day intellectually challenging with many saying that it was extremely challenging. These are some other comments, 'I found a deeper meaning of things,' 'the day created new chains of thoughts,' 'I heard about things I hadn't heard of before.' 'It questioned my assumptions about life and made me think deeper.'"***

The cost of transport will be covered by St Margaret's; however, the cost of the ticket for the conference is £25. Payment can be made by cash or cheque (payable to St Margaret's School Fund). In line with our Charging Policy, pupils for whom we receive Pupil Premium funding (eg those entitled to, or previously entitled to Free School Meals) will not be required to make a payment for this trip.

I hope your son will be able to participate and benefit from this outstanding opportunity. If you would like your son to take part, please complete the reply slip below, and return it to the school office with the appropriate payment in a sealed, named envelope. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at school on **0151 427 1825** or by email at **mevans@stmargaretsacademy.com**.

I look forward to hearing from you soon,

Yours faithfully,

Miss M Evans

(AG&T/ KS3 History)

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Reply Slip- Debate Trip Manchester (15/03/2019)

Name _____ Form: _____

I/ we give permission for our son to take part in the excursion. I have enclosed payment of £25 for my son's ticket.

Signed _____ Date _____