

24 November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are delighted to share an incredible opportunity for our Year 12 students: a joint trip with Oxford Spires (A sister school within Anthem Trust) to **Bangkok, Thailand! A Once-in-a-Lifetime Experience.**

Our school has received **special funding through the Turing Scheme**, which allows **14 students** to take part in this unique cultural and educational experience at no cost for flights and accommodation. This is a rare opportunity for students to broaden their horizons, immerse themselves in a different culture, and develop valuable life skills.

Key Details

- **Who?** 14 Year 12 students from our school, accompanied by 2 staff members, joining Oxford Spires.
- **Where?** Bangkok, Thailand
- **When?** The trip will last **6 days**, most likely at the **end of the February half term**. Please note that dates are not yet confirmed. We will need some flexibility as travel will be booked once we have passport details. You should expect to lose at least part of the half-term holiday - but what an experience!
- **Accommodation:** The 5-star Sukosol Hotel – <https://www.thesukosol.com/>
- **Activities:**
 - Visit an Elephant Sanctuary
 - Explore stunning temples
 - Support an orphanage
 - Experience Thai culture at a local school: cooking, language lessons, and Thai boxing
 - Evening opportunities to explore Bangkok with staff and students

Travel & Passport Information

UK and EU passport holders do **not** require a visa. If you hold a different passport, please inform us immediately as a visa may be required.

Cost

- Flights and accommodation are covered by the **Turing Fund**.
- Additional costs:
 - **£120** for tourist attractions and local travel (to be paid in cash one week before departure)
 - Meals: Local cuisine is around **£3 per meal**; Western options will cost more
 - Travel to and from a London airport (TBC)
 - Spending money for personal purchases

Next Steps

To apply for a place, we need confirmation of parental consent and **passport** (to be scanned) by Thursday 27 November 2025. Once these are received, travel will be booked and dates confirmed. The final list of students will be confirmed on the **01 December 2025**.

This promises to be an unforgettable experience for our students, combining cultural immersion, adventure, and personal growth.

If you have any questions or need further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Lizzie Bowen (St Marks)

Assistant Principal, Pastoral and Careers

e: ebowen@stmarks.anthemtrust.uk **t:** 0208 685 6661 **w:** www.stmarksacademy.com

Reply Slip – Bangkok Trip

Please return this slip and your passport to Miss Bowen or Ms Haider by 27 November 2025

Completing this reply slip is not confirmation of your place on the trip

Passports will be scanned and returned the same day

Student Name: _____

Coaching Group: _____

Parent/Carer Name: _____

- I give consent for my child to take part in the trip to Bangkok, Thailand.
- I commit to providing the additional costs - £120 for visits, Transfer from School to a London airport, money for food and spending money
- I confirm that I will provide my child's passport details by **27 November**.
- My child holds a:
 - UK/EU Passport
 - Other (please specify): _____

Parent/Carer Signature: _____

Date: _____