the GREENROOM windsor

8th October 2026

Istanbul trip - March 2027

Dear Parents and Carers,

Here at The Green Room School we pride ourselves on being audacious. We believe in the value of education in and beyond the classroom. Trips are seen as a vital part of a young person's education and we strive to provide as many enrichment opportunities as possible. It is important that young people appreciate the world beyond their local area and we hope to give them the inspiration and confidence to travel and explore other cultures to broaden their horizons.

In line with our curriculum collapse we want to take the opportunity to provide a rich cultural experience. We have decided to go to Istanbul! As the cliché goes, Istanbul is where east meets west, or vice versa. This unique location combined with its history and occupants of different cultural backgrounds make this city a true melting pot.
In Istanbul, century old buildings stand near modern skyscrapers. In the same area mosques, churches and synagogues call for devoted inhabitants. Liberal and conservative Muslims peacefully live side by side, together with people from a dozen other religions or beliefs.

The four-day trip will be focused on visiting world renown sites as well as places of significance from the 4 empires that it has been capital to (please see suggested itinerary overleaf). If your young person is interested in this experience and would like to join us on this trip please register your interest by emailing myself or office@thegreenroomschool.com before 13th October 2026.

For those that register interest, an information evening will be held online 5pm till 6pm on 13th October 2026 at The Green Room Windsor on Albert Street. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or can not attend but would like to receive any additional information.

Costs and passports
A contribution of £600 is payable by January 30, 2027 with the school funding the other 50% of the total cost per person. The cost will cover transport (including flights), accommodation and food as well as entrance fees to all sites. Please feel free to contact us if you would like further support with funding a place for this experience.

Your young person will need a valid passport up to and including October 2027. If you require support with passport applications please don't hesitate to contact us. They may also want their

own spending money for extras and so would require Turkish Lira or a bank/travel card that offers foreign currency.

An initial, non-returnable deposit of £200 will be required by Monday 2nd November 2026 to secure a place, with the remaining balance due by January 30, 2027.

You can make payment to:
Account number: 73386937
Sort code: 20-71-03
Account name: The Green Room Foundation
Reference: (Child's initials) Istanbul deposit

Please be assured that a parallel Curriculum Collapse timetable will be running at the school during the trip so no learning opportunity is missed.

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me
tom@thegreenroomschool.com

Kind regards,



Tom Tilbury
SENCo/Leader of Curiosity

Suggested itinerary (TBC)

Day 1:
Arrival and check in/settle in.
Dinner and orientation

Day 2: The Historic Heart (Sultanahmet)

Morning: The Big Two sights

Hagia Sophia: Start early (around 8:30 AM) to beat the massive crowds. *(Note: Ensure your knees and shoulders are covered; women must bring a headscarf).*

The Blue Mosque: (Walk directly across the square)

Mid-Day: Subterranean Wonders & Imperial Luxury

The Basilica Cistern: 6th-century Byzantine reservoir.

Topkapi Palace: Walking the courtyards of the Ottoman sultans. Visit the Harem to see the private imperial living quarters.

Late Afternoon: The Grand Bazaar

Evening: Sunset Dinner

Grab dinner at a rooftop restaurant in Sultanahmet (like the popular Seven Hills Restaurant) for a panoramic view of the Hagia Sophia and Blue Mosque illuminated against the night sky.

Day 3: Modern Culture & Two Continents

Morning:

Spice Bazaar (Egyptian Bazaar).

Galata Bridge: Walk across the lower deck of the bridge to watch local fishermen cast lines.

Mid-Day: Galata & Istiklal Street

Galata Tower: Climb or take the elevator up this 14th-century stone tower for a spectacular 360-degree view of the entire city.

Istiklal Street & Taksim Square: Stroll up the pedestrian-only avenue. Watch the vintage red tram and stop for a traditional Turkish slice of

Start a path...

kunefe.

Afternoon: Bosphorus Cruise or Asian Side (Kadıköy)

Option A: Hop on a public ferry from Eminönü to Kadıköy on the Asian side. Explore the lively Kadıköy Market, street art, and trendy cafes.

Option B: Take a dedicated Bosphorus Sunset Cruise. This is arguably the best way to see the scale of the city, gliding past grand Ottoman palaces (like Dolmabahçe Palace) and massive suspension bridges linking Europe and Asia.

Evening: Whirling Dervishes. Traditional Sufi Whirling Dervish ceremony at a venue like the Hodjapasha Culture Center.

Day 4:
Breakfast
Check out
Final souvenir shopping and Departure

Flight Information:

Leave GRW at 06:00		Arrive back at 18:30pm	
Gatwick to Istanbul		Istanbul to	Gatwick
10:10am	17:05pm	15.25pm	16.30pm