

Nizampet - Bachupally Road, GRIET College Campus, Hyderabad

Circular No: GVS/PCH/ 073/19-20

Date: 09.09.2019

Singapore Visit

Dear Parent

We are delighted to inform that 19 students have finally been booked on flight No TR 575 (departure at 0140 hours) to make the first international trip from Ganges Valley School to Singapore from 30th September 2019 to 3rd October 2019 (Students to assemble at Rajiv Gandhi International Airport at 2200 hours on 29th September, 2019). Ms. Sujatha and Ms. Archana, the two coordinators of the Secondary and Primary sections respectively, shall accompany them. They have been a part of the Ganges family for 6 to 7 years now and we can assure you that safety and well being of the 19 students will be their priority.

Singapore is a paradise for tourists with plenty of places to see, enjoy and learn a lot. The itinerary shared earlier surely tells you that the students are going to enjoy themselves. However, there are some Do's and Don't's that one must bear in mind before travelling to that country.

You must educate your ward, along with us, to ensure the following:

1. **Carrying of chewing gum is strictly prohibited.** Ensure you do not pack these in their baggage
2. **Known for cleanliness.** It is absolutely essential that we **Do Not Litter** streets, tourist places, restaurants. The penalty for doing so is heavy and it is to be avoided
3. Always stand on the **Left side of the Escalator**, as people walk up and down on the right side.
4. Walk carefully on the footpath. **Avoid Yellow Stripes** as it is meant for people on bicycles.
5. One thing Singaporeans love is **Queue**. Always maintain that when at the airport, shops, restaurant, tourist places to purchase ticket etc, **never ever cut a line**.
6. **Treat Elders** like family with **Respect**. Call them aunty or uncle rather than anything else. They will love it. This may be at a shop, restaurant, ticket counter, etc.
7. **Being polite is a must.** "Thank you", "Sorry", "Excuse me", "Pardon me", should be an important part of our vocabulary. In terms of volume, ensure that we **Do not shout and scream** while talking in the bus, otherwise we attract unnecessary attention. **Please do not spit anywhere in that country.**
8. **Follow traffic rules.** Cross the road only when we see green light. There is a heavy fine for breaking traffic rules.
9. **We cannot stand in the bus.** We will be travelling in our own bus all the time, but still nobody can stand. It is considered a violation of traffic norms and the driver will not appreciate it.
10. **Do not run to the table in a restaurant.** We will be guided to one. A packet of tissues on a table indicates that it is already booked.
11. Students must carry their own wallets with Singapore Currency. We suggest that 450 to 500 Singapore dollars should be enough, as most of things are provided. **Students will be responsible for the money they carry.**

12. Students can carry their own mobile phones; **however, they will be entirely responsible for it.** Parents can give them a global SIM/they can purchase in Singapore, if they so desire to keep in touch with parents.

The school number with the teachers will be Ms. Sujatha 8187899164, Ms. Archana 8187899165 (only working in wifi). Local number when purchased shall be shared.

We will create a WhatsApp group by 20th September 2019. Any further discussions / clarifications can be posted in a cordial manner.

13. We will have a first aid kit for emergency purpose. We do hope that none of the students travelling are on any specific medication that you have not shared with us.

We, at Ganges, make it a point to always groom our students and the points given above are only a reaffirmation of the same. Singapore is a warm country even in early October. Therefore, the following are a **Must Have's** in the baggage:

- a. Cotton shirts and tee shirts
- b. Casual shorts (boys) and couple of cotton trousers/jeans
- c. Comfortable sneakers (avoid a new pair) and a pair of slippers (No heels)
- d. A pair of socks for each day
- e. Toiletries with hand sanitiser
- f. Cap and water bottle
- g. A cotton jacket. May be handy in the aircraft or in the evenings
- h. Students can carry some snacks but ensure we do not litter our bus, street, etc. We will not carry any kind of chewing gum
- i. A small hand towel
- j. A small trolley suitcase and a backpack is the maximum you can carry.

Remember, it's a country where you will not find porters. Students will have to carry/manage their baggage. On a daily basis the backpack will come in handy to put your bottle, towel, etc.

To convert Indian currency to Singapore dollars, an amount of Rs 25,000 (which will convert to around 450 Singapore dollars) could be submitted to Ms Sujatha Bh by 14th September, 2019, which will be exchanged with the help of the tour coordinator. Parents can do so on their own too.

(The itinerary with hotels and details of each day will once again be shared by 20th September, 2019)

Suparna Mehrotra
Principal

