

## Vocational Faculty Trip to Disneyland Paris -

On Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January at 11:45pm we all arrived promptly outside Zara Sport Centre to take our Vocational Faculty students on a 3 day visit to France.

The purpose of the visit was to bring together the practical studies of health, care, disability and Business into the workings of the Disney Park Resort in Paris.

We left promptly at twelve midnight making our way down to Dover by coach. The pupils were all excited and our plans of getting some sleep on the coach remained, just plans. On 1<sup>st</sup> February 2012 we arrived at our hotel and following a speedy check-in process by Study Experience we were all settled into our rooms with German efficiency.

Day 1 – We had a few hours before our first seminar and decided to



explore the Disney Village. The Village was 'Fantastic & Magical'; a city within the compounds of the resort. In the evening we had our first seminar, which looked at the history of Disney, design and safety, health care in the theme parks in addition to meeting individual needs. We returned back to the Hotel Cheyenne (which has a country & western theme) at 10:00pm and after a long day thought our students would be



ready to go to bed. But this certainly did not happen and we were left wondering where they get their energy from.

Day 2 – Pupils were up for 6:30am and made our way for breakfast at the



restaurant. On offer was coffee, tea, juice, croissants, bread, toast – a continental breakfast buffet. After breakfast we got ready for a busy day with entry to the two resort parks and two additional seminars to explore the workings of the park. Our first seminar of the day was presented by a guest speaker – Andres Cooper of Clic Sargent. This is a charity that supports children with cancer and their families, in hospital and in the community. After our seminars we decided to use our park tickets to see explore the park. Some decided to hit the rides where as others decided to explore the magic of Walt Disney Studios. In the evening we attended our last seminar which looked into issues of working with children, customer service



and human resources. After two nights we implemented our plan to get some much needed sleep before our return to the UK.

Day 3 – We were up for 7:00am and had Breakfast before sorting out our



last minute packing and finding space for all those gifts purchased. We left in good time to make our way to Calais for our Ferry and return to the UK for 10:30pm.



On our return journey we asked the students to Tweet a short message with a maximum of 120 characters about the trip. The responses were certainly not 120 characters long!



**Isma** – It was cool ☺, very cold, had fun

**Sana & Shafiq** – Bonjour! Had a really good time, been awesome, next time include Eiffel tower.

**Sadia** – I had a wonderful time, fun and entertaining. The atmosphere was brilliant.

**Zainab** – It was Sick!!! ☺

**Alisha** – The Disney trip was awesome, fantastic, phenomenal, spectacular + wonderful.

**Maryeya** - Made new friends, increased my self esteem a lot and made me more confident.

Overall everyone loved the trip, we found the seminars educational, the parks magical and the company a lot of fun. As the pupils have said it was 'a once is a lifetime opportunity'.

Saqib Akram  
Rebecca Taylor  
Kathy Pickerten.

