



6th June 2025

Dear Parent/Carer and S6 Students,

Visit to New York and Syracuse University

Remembrance Week 2025

I'm thrilled to offer you a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to apply for a **fully funded** educational and cultural experience in the United States this October. This new initiative will bring 10 Lockerbie Academy pupils to **New York City and Syracuse University** to participate in **Remembrance Week 2025**, a powerful and historic commemoration of the 35 Syracuse students who lost their lives in the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103. Ms Currie and I will lead this trip and we hope it will be a great success.

The Experience

This is not just another school trip—it's a meaningful journey that honors history, builds global understanding, and connects you directly with an international university community.

- **Two days in New York City** exploring world-renowned landmarks and museums.
- **Five days at Syracuse University** in upstate New York to take part in Remembrance Week activities, engage with American students, and represent Lockerbie on a global stage. Remembrance Week activities are held annually in honour of the 35 Syracuse University students who lost their lives when Pan Am Flight 103 was bombed on the 21st December 1988.

The Cost

The ten selected students will be required to pay a non-refundable deposit of £150. Beyond that, there is **no cost to you**. Syracuse University is covering **everything**:

- Return transport to Edinburgh
- Round-trip flights to JFK, New York
- All accommodations, meals, and scheduled activities
- All ground transportation in the U.S.

The only money you may wish to bring is for small personal purchases—and that's completely optional and at your own risk.

Dates

Tentative travel dates: Friday 17th-Saturday 25th October 2025 during second week of the October Holidays.



How to Apply

This is new. Both Syracuse University and I want to see how carefully you are considering the seriousness of this opportunity and the responsibility you will bear, if representing the school and community of Lockerbie at Remembrance activities in New York this year.

To be considered for one of the 10 places, you must submit **two parts** by **Thursday, 13th June**:

1. Letter of Interest (addressed to Mr. Asher)

Please include:

- Why you're interested in participating in Remembrance Week
- What you hope to gain and contribute during the trip
- Your academic progress to date (including SQA results and current aspirations)
- Your future hopes after school

2. Creative Response (1 page max)

Reflect on the theme:

"The Kindness of Strangers"

This can be an essay, poem, song, article, rap, or any creative format that expresses your understanding of the impact and legacy of the Lockerbie tragedy. Use this as an opportunity to demonstrate insight, compassion, and your personal voice.

Selections will be based on the strength of your application. If applications are high in number and quality, we may hold interviews to finalize the group.

Looking Ahead

There is growing anticipation that the Lockerbie Scholarship may return in 2026. Participating in this trip will offer valuable context and preparation for those considering applying for that life-changing opportunity. Syracuse University has made clear that future scholarship recipients will be expected to meet rigorous academic standards. We hope you'll consider applying for this unforgettable experience and join us in representing our school and community on a world stage. If you have questions, please speak with Mr. Asher or Ms. Currie.

Background

It is now almost 37 years since the events which affected our town and the entire world. At that time, Lockerbie was a focus as everyone tried to make sense of what had happened. There are currently various programmes on a variety of platforms telling stories from various perspectives. People are still trying to make sense of the events that led up to the bombing of that flight. For some people, it is very important that they can tell their story. For others, they do not want to be reminded of things that were too painful. We want to see you engage with the history of the events, show your understanding and demonstrate sensitivity in how you respond.

Please submit responses to Mr Asher by the 13th of June.

Yours faithfully,



Brian Asher
Headteacher