



March 11, 2026

To: Principal or Dean of Students
From: Gandalf French – MSYSA Technical Director
Re: ODP International Trip
March 29 – April 6, 2026

On behalf of the Olympic Development Program (ODP) of the Maryland State Youth Soccer Association, we would like to request the release of your student(s) to participate in the ODP International Trip to Scotland, England, France, Portugal and/or Netherlands. The travel dates are March 29 – April 6, 2026.

We would be grateful if your student(s) can be excused from all classes from Monday, March 30 – April 6, 2026 to participate in this significant event.

MSYSA's ODP aims to provide high-level training to benefit and enhance the development of players at all levels. This is why MSYSA offers ODP teams the chance to travel internationally and play soccer. Through travel to Europe, players engage in a level of competition not found in the U.S. as well as learn a different style of play. All tours will include training sessions, match play against top academy teams, stadium tours, and attendance at professional matches. Players also mingle with their opponents at pre-game and post-game socials, try new foods, see new sights and bond with their teammates.

It is a privilege for these young student-athletes to travel internationally and we want to do everything possible to ensure that they have the opportunity.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the MSYSA State office at (410) 768-5401.

Sincerely,



GANDALF FRENCH
TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

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