Chotěboř 2017

The exchange with Chotěboř has been a very valuable experience. We have learnt a lot and received a whole new perspective of seeing things. In the beginning, it was hard adjusting to the new habits and ways of life. Although Czech Republic has a lot in common with Sweden, there are major differences that forced us to leave our comfort zones and start thinking outside of the box. In my opinion, it is the differences between the countries that help us learn and develop as individuals. The difficult parts, like sharing a room with someone you don’t know very well or eating food that is a lot different from your own is what makes the exchange so special.

If I had the chance to do the exchange all over again I definitely would. Thanks to Gymnázium Chotěboř, I feel a lot more independent. Even though the exchange pressures you and forces you to make decisions all on your own, it gives way more than it takes. I am very glad that we got to go on different trips, like the silver mine and bone museum in Kutná Hora and some beautiful castles. Visiting Prague was one of the highlights, since it is a lovely city with an amazing history. Anyway, going to Chotěboř is a more full experience than just visiting the capital of Czech Republic. When you stay in a host family, you get to take part of the everyday life, without beautifications and adjustments to the tourists. My host family treated me very well. They made me feel like on in the family and always offered me food and drinks. The only problem with the families was the lack of English, which made it pretty hard to communicate with the parents. Luckily, my host student was really good at speaking English so she could work like the translator in the family.

With me from Czech Republic I will bring a lot of happy memories and new friendships. Also, I will bring the knowledge that I can survive without my daily routines and habits. I know life will go back to normal in just a few days. However, the experiences and impressions from Chotěboř will always life on within me.