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A group of children who missed out on a World Cup match because of an alleged ticket scam, are celebrating after seeing England win in Germany.



The children returned to Germany to see England win

The 23 pupils from Mayville High School in Portsmouth were among 400 youngsters caught up in the alleged fraud.

They all paid about £400 for their trip last weekend but the tickets they were promised never showed up.

Fifa came up with tickets after talks with the government and Portsmouth FC who paid the hotel and travel costs.

The Portsmouth pupils were in Stuttgart to see England win over Ecuador and reach a place in the quarter-finals.

Martin Castle, deputy head teacher at Mayville, told the BBC: "We've had such a great time. The boys are just soaking it up. The seats we had were great and we all just got up on our seats when England scored.

"Now they are trying to spend some money at the official fan club shop."

Pupil Tom Clark said: "This is our dream. We just want to say cheers to Pompey."

Schoolchildren from Worcestershire, Oxfordshire, Dorset, Lincolnshire and Suffolk were also affected by the alleged fraud.



The Portsmouth pupils have now been to Germany twice

Tickets have also been secured for the other children who are due to travel out to Germany to watch a game next weekend.

Thames Valley Police said the deception being investigated involved a total sum of about £60,000 and that several lines of inquiry are being pursued.

A 38-year-old man and a woman in her 40s, both from

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Slough, Berkshire, were arrested on suspicion of deception and have been released on police bail.

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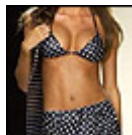
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