

Professionalism - Inclusion - Pedagogy - Curriculum

17th September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

The purpose of this letter is to share with you some updates and upcoming events.

Firstly, I want to say what a very good start to the term it has been. During this week we have hosted Open Morning tours and parents have been praising the calm and focused learning environment.

COVID Update

With regard to our Covid measures, may I remind you that your child must bring a face covering and hand sanitiser to school every day. We are maintaining that face coverings must be worn in communal areas of the school.

In the news you will have heard reports regarding vaccinations in school for 12 - 15 year olds. I have included a link to the Government website and a link to an information leaflet. Please read the information. As with any vaccination parental consent is required and this will be obtained by the School Age Immunisation Service (SAIS) team who will carry out the vaccination programme with health care professionals. The school's role is to ensure you have the required information and provide a location for the vaccinations to take place.

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-resources-for-schools/covid-19-vaccination-programme-for-children-and-young-people-guidance-for-schools

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_da ta/file/1017171/PHE_12073_COVID-19_guide_for_all_CYP.pdf

Please keep checking our website for any further information.

Uniform and Punctuality

So far this term I have had to speak to a few students regarding uniform. Please be reminded that trousers and skirts must be grey and not black. We do have some in stock should you need.

A small number of students have been arriving late to school. Your child must be in school before 8.35am every morning. We operate a late detention each day for 20 minutes. If your child is persistently late you are at risk of a fine by the Local Authority.

Black History Month

Throughout October the school will be celebrating Black History Month. As part of the celebration we want to capture the history of our community. So, we will be encouraging students to explore their own cultural history and the history in the local community. Please do encourage this at home during October. We firmly believe that to understand our own

history and that of others helps us be accepting of all people. It is the foundation of our 4BEs.

Anti-Bullying Month

Following October, throughout November we will be dedicating curriculum time to further work and awareness of anti-bullying. We will be re-designing our Charter which all students will sign.

Continually in assemblies and as part of the curriculum we remind students of the importance of staying safe on-line and the use of social media. Our community Police Officer has spoken to students and explained that a mobile phone can be confiscated by the police and everything downloaded if there are reports of using social media to bully others. The law also states that sharing comments or repeatedly asking or sending images can be judged as harassment. If a young person is on a group and shares images etc. then all members of that group are equally responsible under the law.

As a school we encourage you to monitor your child's use of social media and do consider whether at a young age your child needs a smart phone. We recognise that the majority of young people do use social media and their phones in the correct manner. As a school we ask at all times that parents are vigilant on this matter. Do look at the information on our website.

We will also hold a Parent Forum 'On-line Safety' on 19th October at 4.30pm where we can share advice and guidance with you. It would also be great for parents to share some best practice.

I would also like to draw your attention to another date for your diary. On Tuesday 9th November at 4.30pm we will host a Curriculum Information Forum for parents. At the forum you can come and find out more regarding the National Curriculum and ways to support learning at home.

Finally, as you know we work in partnership with Spotlight. This summer they ran a fantastic Summer School for Year 7s and they run a programme of activities for young people after school.

Thank you as always for your continued support and taking time to read this letter. If you do have any questions or queries then do contact the school. This term my Parent Surgeries will run in Byron Street reception on Monday 4^{th} October from 4.00 pm - 5.00 pm and Tuesday 12^{th} October from 4.00 pm - 5.00 pm when you can drop in to raise anything with me.

Yours sincerely,

Mr N. Langham Headteacher

