



19th April 2017

Dear Parents'/Carers,

SUMMER TERM – WELCOME BACK

I do hope that you enjoyed the Easter break and that your child has returned to school ready for the new term.

I am pleased to welcome to the school Mr Thomas, an additional member of the Science Department and Mr Kelly, Acting Head of Business. I was delighted on my return to see the progress that has been made with our extension, housing our new library and additional classrooms. Years 11, 12 and 13 had a full programme of revision over the Easter break. I was delighted that so many took advantage of this offer which I am sure will assist their exam results. I am sure you will want to pass on your thanks also to the staff who gave up their break to come in and support your child.

The school works hard to maintain high standards in all areas of school life, enabling your child to do their best and feel safe and happy whilst they are at school. As we return to school, I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate our expectations:

Uniform and Equipment: Please note that we are very proud of our successful school and want to ensure that our uniform is worn with pride. This includes ensuring that your child has returned to school in the correct uniform and that the only outerwear worn is the approved school coat. All other outerwear will be confiscated. These expectations include ensuring your child brings their full equipment into lessons, leaving mobile phones at home, no inappropriate jewellery or piercings and only regulation hair styles and Cardinal Pole bags only. For clarification, please see the uniform list overleaf. As I am sure you will appreciate, it is time consuming and unnecessary for staff to have to issue constant reminders about those very clear school rules.

Behaviour in the Community: In general, our reputation in the community and the behaviour of our students is very positive. I have been clear that my expectation, with your support, is that your child leaves school and goes straight home, without stopping at the local shops.

Homework and Progress: The school works very hard to ensure that all students make at least expected progress. You can continue to access progress information on Go 4 Schools. Please contact the office if you have problems in accessing this information. Homework is a key element in supporting progress and you are asked to work with the school on checking that homework is not only complete, but is up to the standard expected by the school. Where there are concerns about progress, the school ensures that there is support available. This year this will include additional intervention for Year 10 students as an alternative to Work Experience later in the term.

At the last Parent Forum meeting, one of the issues raised was effective communication. Can I ask that if there have been changes to your contact details, including changes to telephone numbers, addresses or email accounts, that you notify the school office immediately so that we can continue to communicate effectively.

Finally, you will be aware that the school has been working on a restorative programme, looking at alternative approaches to behaviour management, relationships and seeking also to reduce the number of exclusions. This approach was praised both in the Diocese of Westminster Inspection in October 2016 and in the more recent OFSTED inspection in January 2017. We have now been contacted by the University of Cambridge, Faculty of Education, to support their research on this area of work and we have agreed to participate in this research; Restorative Approaches: Systems Thinking for Sustainability? This will include speaking to parents and students about this aspect of school life. Further information can be found on our website and details to follow shortly.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

J. Heffernan

Ms J Heffernan
HEADTEACHER



Boys' Uniform

Grey Pinstripe Blazer with school logo

Grey Trousers

Grey long sleeve or sleeveless pullover with "V" neck with a red stripe

Plain White with long sleeves (short sleeves shirt may be worn in the summer)

School Tie: All boys must wear a school tie - not clip on version

Black or Grey socks

Black low heel leather shoes (Not suede or patent) worn below the ankle. No ankle boots / boots (including kicker boots) No trainers or shoes which look like trainers. Black laces only

Black School Outdoor Jacket (compulsory) with School Logo

Plain black bag / rucksack large enough to hold text and exercise books.

Male students should be clean shaven: (years 7-11).

Markings or symbols which have been cut into scalp or eyebrows are not allowed

Any haircut shorter than no.1 is not allowed

Girls' Uniform

Grey Pinstripe Blazer with school logo

Grey pleated skirt worn below the knee

Grey long sleeve or sleeveless pullover with "V" neck with a red stripe

Plain White with long sleeves (not blouse type) (short sleeves shirt may be worn in the summer)

School Tie: All girls must wear a school tie - not clip on version

Black or Grey tights, or plain knee high Grey or Black socks

Plain low heel black leather shoes worn below the ankle (Not suede or patent) No ankle boots / boots, including kicker boots. No trainers or shoes which look like trainers. Black laces only

Black School Outdoor Jacket (compulsory) with School Logo

Plain black bag / rucksack large enough to hold text and exercise books.

For Health and Safety reasons long hair must be tied back at all times.

Extensions or hair dye which are not natural colours are not allowed. Tints and highlights of unnatural colour (yellow, orange, red, purple etc.) are not allowed

Compulsory P.E. Kit for All Pupils

Black shorts - Plain - no logos

Long sleeved Black T-shirt with school logo - only purchased from School Supplier (Rough Cuts)

White football shirt with Black trim

White socks (plain, no logos)

Waterproof suit with school logo -only purchased from School Supplier (Rough Cuts)

Long white football socks

Black/Red Tracksuits with School Logo

Football boots/trainers/shin pads (not converse, vans or similar fashion)

Optional Extras for both Boys and Girls:

PE - White with Black trim football shirt with the school logo (only required if pupils intend to play for the school football team)

School scarf, hat and gloves (To be purchased from Rough Cuts. No other variation allowed). In no circumstances should anyone wear any other item of clothing.

The school allows one small pair of earring studs to be worn (one in each earlobe) either Gold or Silver and a watch.

The following items are not permitted:

Any outdoor coat apart from the regulation Cardinal Pole Black Coat

Any jewellery apart from what is stated

Ankle boots, including Kickers.

Facial or multiple piercings

Hair - brightly coloured weaves / extensions / hair dye

Extreme fashion styles. The school reserves the right to decide whether a hairstyle meets requirements

Shaved patterns in hair or shaved eyebrows

Hair accessories, including bandanas and scarves

Nails - nail extensions and nail colour/varnish

Make Up - including false eyelashes

Baseball caps / Hoodies

Mobile phones, iPhones, all types of MP3 players, headphones are BANNED from the school building, it's premises and the immediate area surrounding the school. These items will be confiscated if seen and will only be returned to a parent / carer by appointment. This includes before and after school.

Bags / rucksacks with logos are NOT permitted. Students should check with their Head of Year before purchasing a new school bag to ensure it complies with uniform regulations.

The school takes NO RESPONSIBILITY for loss of pupil's property.