



2nd January 2023

Dear Families,

We hope you have enjoyed a restful festive period and your child is looking forward to returning to school next week. When we return to school, the following will remain in place:

- All students will be expected to be equipped for their lessons. Students will be expected to have a pencil case with two black pens, two pencils and a ruler for every lesson. First, we will provide all students with the necessary equipment. If a student loses or forgets their equipment, they can purchase replacements at the start of each school day.
- All students are expected to have a school bag with enough room to hold their equipment, schoolbooks, revision guides and PE kit when needed. Handbags will not be allowed.
- Mobile phones are not allowed at any point during the school day. They must be switched off before a student enters school. Any mobile phone seen or heard will be confiscated until the end of the school day. This includes phones visible in the shirt or front of blazer pockets.

Why are we doing this?

- To provide an education for all students, free from disruption, that enables the school to focus on raising academic standards and whole school continuous improvement.
- Ensure that students in our school receive the same opportunities and support as those in our highest performing schools, and that excellent student behaviour is central to achieving that aim.
- Ensure all students have the opportunity to succeed.
- Recent research has discovered a negative relationship between mobile phone usage and students' academic performance, such that every 100 minutes that a student spends using their phone a day, lead to the student dropping 6.3 places in terms of their academic school ranking. This effect was doubled when the students used their phone whilst actually in class.
- Any student arriving to lesson without the correct equipment, without a suitable school bag or who has their phone confiscated will be placed in the Reflection Room.

Principal Mrs C Coy

Next steps

To help us with our aim of supporting every student to reach their potential, we are continuing to focus on students missing as little learning as possible. To achieve this, students without a medical pass will be able to use the toilet before school, during break time, during lunchtime and after school but not during lessons. This is because on average, a student using the toilet during lessons once per day will miss roughly one lesson of learning time per week. We will continue to allow students with medical passes to use the toilets as they currently do.

Reasonable Adjustments

The school takes into account its duties under the Equality Act 2010 regarding relevant characteristics protected by the Act, notably disability. It also takes into account the needs of pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN). The school will also have regard to its Safeguarding Policy where appropriate. Therefore, the school will undertake a series of reasonable adjustments to ensure all student's needs are met. A reasonable adjustment is an adjustment made to a sanction taking into account the specific needs of an individual. All reasonable adjustments are managed by the Pastoral and SEND Team. Below are some examples of reasonable adjustments:

- An additional warning or Reset in the Reflection Room
- Reduced time in the Reflection Room
- Additional warning in unstructured times
- Fidget toys (where applicable)
- Take up time (extra time given to respond)

Finally, I want to thank you for your ongoing support. The feedback we have received from students and their families in the recent survey was fantastic. It is great to have the support and backing of the wider community in our drive to provide an excellent education for our students.

If you have any questions, please contact your child's Head of Year.

Yours faithfully

S Fletcher

Mr S Fletcher
Deputy Principal

Principal Mrs C Coy