



Wednesday, 04 October 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you all at the start of this new academic year. We believe that this year will be both enjoyable and successful for all of our students and look forward to working in partnership with you over the coming months and years.

We have been immensely impressed with the way that our students have returned to school from their summer breaks, with positivity and enthusiasm, keen to progress and ready to learn. Many students have already been rewarded for their excellent starts.

As a school, we have returned to a Year group pastoral system to allow for greater emphasis to be placed on PSHCE related topics, which will now be covered during these sessions. Your child's tutor should always be the first point of contact for any concerns that you may have. Already there is a strong and competitive rivalry developing between each year group.

Just a few short reminders for the year. Detailed information regarding the school uniform policy can be found in student planners and on the school website. In brief, school shoes should be black formal type, Meden blazer and tie should be worn at all times unless instructed otherwise, trousers should be tailored and not skin tight, skirts should be knee length, natural hair colours only and no facial piercings are allowed. Subtle make-up can be worn at KS4 (Yrs. 9, 10 & 11) only. Students will be challenged on their uniform on a daily basis to ensure that standards remain high. We do keep a limited supply of "spare" items of school uniform, which can be loaned temporarily to students, should incorrect items be worn, as students will not be allowed into lessons unless dressed correctly.

The student Planner is an excellent source of information for students and parents. All students have been made aware of expectations regarding their planners. These should be brought to school every day and they should be out in class in every lesson. **Planners are used by students to record any homework received and will be used by staff to record any incidents, positive and negative, which may need to be reported home, this includes detentions.** Parents/carers should ensure planners are reviewed by them daily and signed each week where indicated.

Detentions remain one of our main sanctions for managing student behaviour and could be set by teachers for a variety of reasons including, lateness to school and lessons, missing homework, disruption and rudeness. Any detentions will be set for the next available evening, straight after school and will be for a period of 45 minutes, in the Main School Hall. If a student fails to attend the original 45 minute detention, the duration would double for the following evening (90 minute detention).

Students should be on site no later than 8.25am with lessons starting promptly at 8.30am.

We thank you for your continued support and look forward to a successful year ahead.

Craig Gibbison
School Leader