

2 September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

As we embark on a new academic year, I extend a warm welcome to all our students and families, both new and returning. We are excited about the opportunities this year holds and are committed to ensuring that each student achieves their full potential. To achieve this, I want to highlight some key areas that are critical to a successful start.

Attendance

Regular attendance is vital for academic success. Each day of learning builds on the previous one, and missing school can create gaps that are hard to fill. We ask for your support in ensuring that your child attends school every day, on time. Should your child need to miss school due to illness or an unavoidable circumstance, please inform the school as early as possible. If your child should be absent for a while, we will support them in ensuring missed learning is caught up and give them the best opportunities to achieve this when they are ready to return to school.

Behaviour and Attitudes to Learning

A positive and respectful learning environment is essential for everyone's success. We expect all students to exhibit behaviour that reflects our school's values of Brave, Respectful, Independent, Generous, Hardworking and to Thrive so that they leave us with high standards of achievement both academically and personally. This means being kind and considerate to peers and staff, following school rules, and actively participating in their learning are important. Encouraging your child to approach school with a positive attitude, curiosity, and a willingness to engage, will set them on the path to success. We believe that a collaborative effort between home and school will foster these important traits.

New Mobile Phone Procedures

As previously communicated in the summer term, the use of mobile phones is now prohibited from the time students enter the building at 8:40am until they leave the building at the end of the school day. The Department for Education has carried out research over the last few years and the results of this show that mobile phones have become a real distraction to learning. The research has also shown that mobile phones also have a negative impact on mental health and well-being. As a result of this research, all schools have been asked to prohibit the use of mobile phones throughout the school day. For further guidance please refer to the [mobile phone policy on the website here](#).

Uniform Expectations

Our school uniform promotes a sense of community and equality among students. We appreciate your cooperation in ensuring that your child comes to school dressed in the correct uniform each day. Please refer to the school's uniform policy for specific guidelines. If you have questions or need help with uniform needs, please contact the school to discuss.

On **Tuesday 3rd September**, only year 7 will be required to attend with students entering the school through the student entrance (off Springwell Road) by 8:40am. Staff will be in the yard to meet and greet the students and ensure they are taken to the right place.

On **Wednesday 4th September**, all year groups will be required to attend via the student entrance by 8:40 am.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

Yours sincerely,



Mr P Atkinson
Head Teacher