

8 May 2022

Dear Parent / Carer

Update for Year 8 Families

As you are aware, since the return to school after the Easter holidays, we have been working hard to reinforce our expectations for all aspects of the school's behaviour policy. In the first of our 'fortnightly focus' periods on uniform and equipment, we have seen a huge increase in the number of students wearing the correct uniform and footwear and therefore meeting our guidelines, as well as students bringing vital equipment which means that the start to lessons is not delayed and progress can be maximised. I would like to ask for your continued support in ensuring that students have the full, correct uniform and discussing with your children any sanctions that they may receive for uniform and how they can avoid them in the future. If you have particular circumstances which mean it is difficult to obtain the correct uniform at the present time, please contact your child's Head of Year in the first instance.

Our next fortnightly focus begins tomorrow, with a drive on attendance and punctuality. As new guidance suggests we need to learn to live with Coronavirus, and absences relating to this are necessary solely for students who are unwell with a high temperature, we would like to support our students to achieve their attendance targets. We have noticed a significant increase in the numbers of students who arrive late to school and this must be avoided at all costs. The tutor time programme delivers statutory education and students must be **in tutor time by 8.40am**. Please remind your child to arrive at school and go **through the school gates by 8.35am**. Students who arrive on time are rewarded with stamps on the gate which can be traded for rewards ranging from a new pen up to a £20 Xbox voucher and much more inbetween! Students who arrive late enter school through the dining hall door and are given a late code; three late codes result in a 30-minute detention. Arriving 10 minutes late to school each day adds up to over 31 hours of schooling missed and no student can afford to do this, so I would like to ask for your support in ensuring your child arrives to school on time each day.

Parent voice is extremely important to us and we are working hard in school to improve in this area. As you may recall, we recently held an election for the position of Parent Governor on our Local Governing Committee. I am delighted to let you know that the position has been filled and Mr Darren Leppington has been elected to the Committee. Further to the Edurio survey, we are continually looking for more ways to communicate with you about life in school and to listen to your feedback. We held a GPS Parents' Forum last week on the theme of safeguarding and our next Parents' Forum takes place on **Wednesday 8 June at 6pm**; this begins with an introduction to the teaching and

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learning policy in school. Please sign up by clicking on the following link: <https://forms.gle/7iSb2Ydw4sV5A6rr8> During our conversations with the families who attended last week, parents' evening was discussed. We would love to hear your thoughts about future parents' evenings and would appreciate your feedback by clicking on this link: <https://forms.gle/vQ87bbCZq6WsUPaP8>

As ever, I would like to thank you for your support of our school community. We are striving for success on behalf of all our students and when home, school and students work together, we can achieve even more.

Yours sincerely

Lesley Welsh
Principal

Year 8 Dates for the Diary	
Friday 20 May	Year 8 London visit
Thursday 26 May	Year 8 visit Coventry University (Scarborough Campus)
Friday 27 May at 3pm	Break up for half term
Monday 6 June at 8.35am	Return to school
W./c. Monday 6 June	Year 8 Assessment Week
Wednesday 8 June at 6pm	GPS Parents' Forum
Thursday 16 June	Year 8 Sports for Champions Day
Wednesday 6 July	Year 8 Reports
Tuesday 12 July	Year 8 Parents' Evening
Friday 22 July	Sports Day and break up for summer at 3pm

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