



Dear Parents and Carers,

Since I last wrote to you, I continue to be impressed by the response of students to some of the recent changes to policies and procedures within the school - particularly those around behaviour and rewards. As with any new systems in school, the key is to introduce them gradually and in good time, embed them and then review and look to improve further with the aim of always trying to improve standards and raise expectations. We have received several positive comments from parents and carers around our good news text messages and postcards - students respond really well to us sharing their success stories with family at home.

The new rules around mobile phone use have had a positive impact upon the climate in school, both in lessons and at social times. Again, I am very grateful for parental support here - it does make a huge difference.

We said goodbye to our Year 11 students who worked extremely hard to prepare for their final GCSE and BTEC examinations. Our Prom and Leavers Assembly were very successful events, we are immensely proud of our Year 11 and we look forward to seeing the students again on results day, 22nd August.

Here are a few updates as we come to the end of the school year.

Staffing -

For a large school, our staff turnover remains low, however we do say goodbye to some colleagues this summer. Three of our Learning Support Assistants, Mrs Jackson, Miss Hamblet and Miss Groom leave to begin teacher training and we wish them well in their new careers. We wish Mrs Hart well as she retires from the Maths Department and also Mrs Curry who leaves to take up a science post closer to home after ten years dedicated service to the school, and to Mr McNally, who will be taking up a new post as Head of Geography having served Northfield fantastically well for sixteen years. We also say goodbye to Miss Bell from the PE Department.

Uniform –

Just a reminder that jumpers are an **optional** part of our uniform, but blazers are **compulsory**. All students must wear their blazer at all times when moving around the school building. During hot weather, blazers can be removed in lessons or when outside at lunchtime or break.

Catering –

I would like to inform you of an increase in the cost of our school meals. From 1st September 2019, the cost of a student meal deal will increase by 5p to £2.15 and there will be an inflation rise applied to those food items, which have increased in price in line with cost of living. To enable provision of a high quality service, the small increases are essential. As a school, we have maintained our prices for some time when prices in shops have

risen. We are proud of the standard of meals we provide for our students and the increase will ensure that this continues. Our new menus and tariffs are available to view in the Parent section of our website. The school's catering offer will include a new *grab and go* pre-order service from September, which will allow students wishing to attend lunchtime clubs to pre-order and then collect their lunch thus reducing their queuing times.

New Parent Governor -

Following the recent parent governor election, I am pleased to announce that Sean Robinson was elected parent governor and we wish him well in his new role.

Attendance -

Just a reminder about good attendance and punctuality. Both play a critical role in ensuring that students achieve. National statistics show that students who attend every day perform better than students whose attendance falls below 96%. Attendance continues to improve this year, but we are never complacent - every day does count.

Reminder of changes to the timings of the school day for September 2019 -

The additional dining facilities in our new Year 7 School mean that we are able to get all students through the dining halls much more quickly this year. This has given us the opportunity to review the timings of the school day for September 2019.

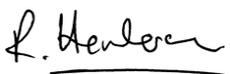
The following new timings will take effect from the 1st September 2019 –

08:00 - 08:45	Pre-School Activities	
08:45 - 08:50	Registration with Group Tutor	<i>* start of day five minutes earlier</i>
08:50 - 09:05	Morning Form Time, Assemblies	
09:05 - 10:05	Period 1	
10:05 - 11:05	Period 2	
11:05 - 11:25	Morning Break	
11:25 - 12:25	Period 3	
12:25 - 13:10	Lunch	<i>* lunch 45 minutes from an hour</i>
13:10 - 14:10	Period 4	
14:10 - 15:10	Period 5	
15:10	Clubs, Societies, Practices, etc.	<i>* school day ends 20 minutes earlier</i>

Finally, just a reminder that term ends this Friday at 12.30 and we look forward to welcoming students back to school at **8.45 on Tuesday 3rd September.**

Thank you for your continued support and I hope you all have an enjoyable summer break.

With every best wish



Richard Henderson

Headteacher