



14th February 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

As we come to the end of the half term, I would like to share with you some important information to help your children to be as well prepared as possible for the new term, which starts on Monday 24th of February 2025.

I would like to stress to you the importance of good attendance and that your child must attend school every single day, as this makes the biggest difference to your child achieving their full academic potential. Unfortunately, there are some children who are regularly absent from school and this has a detrimental impact on their education. Please make appointments for your child outside of school hours where possible, ensure your child has at least 8 hours sleep a night and remove their phone or devices from them beforehand, so they are not disturbed or distracted. As a reminder the school is open for pupils who wish to attend our breakfast club from 7.30am and homework club is available until 4pm every day.

The school day starts for all children at 8.20am. Pupils should arrive at their year team door where they will meet their Head of Year. The school doors close at 8.28am. If your child is late for school, they will be detained for an hour after school, unless we are notified of exceptional circumstances. It is important that your child is punctual for school in order that they can participate in every aspect of school life including tutor time which is an essential part of our personal development programme.

Year 11 and 10 pupils are both preparing for important examinations. I have attached to this letter a copy of our holiday revision timetable planner. You should work with your child to help them plan their time over the half term so they spend a significant amount of time studying, revising and getting into good habits for learning in preparation for their examinations. Please see more guidance about revision and support [here](#).

- **Year 11 final mock examinations** begin on **Thursday 6th March to Friday 14th March**. These are the final examinations before **formal GCSEs begin Tuesday 6th May**. You can find details of all examinations in March on Edulink as well as information on our website regarding revision, guidance, study guides and revision timetable templates.
- **Year 10 examinations begin on Monday 27th of April**. These examinations will allow you to see the progress your child is making at the halfway point of their GCSEs. Pupils have been provided with revision templates and guidance and the expectation that they should now be developing regular routines for independent study and revision.

You will be aware that we have made an adjustment to our school day in preparation for Ramadan. The school day will change to a shorter lunch break and pupils will **finish the school day at 2:40 pm from Monday 3rd March 2025**. Extracurricular clubs, interventions will run as usual. If you wish your child to remain in school until 3 pm or attend our homework club please contact your child's Head of Year.

We look forward to welcoming your child back to school on **Monday 24th of February at 8.20am in full school uniform** ready for learning. Please see the guidance [here](#). A reminder that your child should only wear their PE kit on the days they have PE and they must wear the full school PE kit. If the weather is cold they should wear a navy short sleeved T shirt under their PE kit.

We have been delighted to speak to so many parents this half term. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support in helping us to provide the best educational experience for your child.

Aishling McGinty
Headteacher