

February 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

## Updates

There are a significant number of issues and items of information that I would like to share with parents.

### Mr Wakelin

Mr Wakelin has announced that he wishes to step down from his senior leadership role as Deputy Headteacher from Easter 2020. Mr Wakelin will continue to teach Maths on a part time basis. I am very grateful for the many years of excellent service he has given to our school community and to the difference he has made to so many lives. I will, of course, write a fuller note of thanks in our Easter newsletter.

As a consequence of Mr Wakelin's decision, we are in the process of recruiting a new Deputy Headteacher who will start in the role from September 2020.

### New Rewards scheme

We are introducing a new rewards scheme from Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2020 for Years 9 and 10 (Year 11 have too little time left before their exams). We have consulted with key stakeholders (mostly students!) and have put together a scheme which we believe will reward the many, many students who work incredibly hard on a daily basis but may not have always had the recognition they deserved. The rewards system will be based around our school ethos and the three key words of Ambition, Altruism and Achievement. Mr Horsfield, who is leading on the project, has given an assembly to Years 9 and 10 to outline the new scheme. The details of this will be on our website in due course.

### Mobile phones

There has been much information in the news lately about the negative impact that mobile phone use can have on the emotional and mental health of teenagers. Our school policy has been quite relaxed for a number of years and students (generally) follow the school rules without too much issue.

However, we are considering moving to a system where mobile phones will not be allowed to be used on the school site from when the students enter the site to when they leave at the end of the day unless under the specific direction of teaching staff. Parents wishing to contact their child would be able to leave a message via the school office.

A formal period of consultation will be opened in due course. Students, staff and parents will have the opportunity to contribute to the consultation.

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## **Uniform**

There is still a significant minority of students who are still not complying with our uniform code. Part of the issue appears to be too much variability in choice, especially with girls' trousers that are advertised as "school trousers" but are often too short or too tight. To that end we are looking to review our uniform for our upcoming Year 8 students as they become our Year 9 students. More details will be sent in due course.

## **School App and homework setting in English, Maths and Science**

I would urge any parent / carer that has yet to download our Edulink app to do so at your earliest convenience. We are trying to move away from our long term use of paper and want to reduce this by as much as we possibly can do. This letter will be one of the last distributed in this way.

We are also aware of some parents' frustration at not being able to see the homework that has been set for your child. From this half term, on a trial basis, the English, Maths and Science faculties will be setting homework via the app and Moodle. Parents will be able to see any assignments set and will receive reminders about when the homework is due. Students will also receive reminders about approaching deadlines which will hopefully reduce the opportunity for inadvertently forgotten deadlines.

If you require a username and password please email [edulink@cc-hs.com](mailto:edulink@cc-hs.com).

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alun Harding', written in a cursive style.

Mr Alun Harding  
Executive Headteacher