



Chesterfield High School

'for everyone the best'

Headteacher – Simon Penney B.Ed., N.V.Q.V., N.P.Q.H



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January 2019

Dear Parent/Carers

I am writing to inform you that over the next few months, I will be Acting Headteacher while Mr Penney recuperates from a serious illness. We all wish him a speedy recovery and thank you for all of the kind messages we have already received.

Can I take this opportunity to remind you of the key events and dates for your diary this term. Please ensure you note the dates of your child's Parents' Evening as it is very important for you to attend this event.

Year 13	Parents Evening	7th February 2019	4.00pm to 7.00pm
Year 8	Parents Evening	28th February 2019	4.00pm to 7.00pm
Year 9	Parents Evening	7th March 2019	4.00pm to 7.00pm
Year 11	Parents Evening	21st March 2019	4.00pm to 7.00pm
Year 10	Parents Evening	4th April 2019	4.00pm to 7.00pm
Year 7	Parents Evening	11th July 2019	4.00pm to 7.00pm

During the next week of term the following mock examinations will be taking place:

- Year 11 will be sitting mock examinations in Mathematics, English Literature, Science, Modern Foreign Languages, History and Geography. Timetables and information has been sent to your child's email Account and is available on the school website in the Key Stage 4 news section.
- Year 13 will be sitting mock examinations in all their external examined subjects. Timetables and Information has been sent to your child's email account and is available on the school website in the Key Stage 4 news section.

As you will appreciate, these examinations and assessments will help inform the school's decision about which tier of entry your child will be entered for and, therefore, will have a direct effect on the final grade they will receive. Your child is required to attend school for all examinations. Medical evidence will be expected in the event of any absence, otherwise it will be regarded as an unauthorised absence.

Your child's teachers have been providing your son/daughter with revision materials and resources in preparation for their examinations. Could you please encourage your child to use the on-line revision resources on the PiXL Maths app, Mathswatch and the school's DODDLE learning platform which is accessible from the school's website.

The period after Christmas can be a time when parents and carers decide to book holidays for the summer. The school is not allowed by the Government to authorise any holidays during term time. Any holidays taken in term time will mean that the school will have to issue a Fixed Penalty Notice for each child taken out of school. With the changing examination system, students cannot afford to miss any school days, as every day missed can affect their chances of success in their examinations and affect their future options. Please can we also remind parents/carers that they are expected to make all appointments, including medical, outside of school hours as far as is reasonably possible.

As we are about to go through the season of inclement weather, can I draw your attention to arrangements in case of a very heavy snowfall resulting in the necessity to close our school. In this event, could I advise you to check the school website for information. The school will do everything it can to remain open for students and staff.

Each year group will have received at least one monitoring of performance report sheet by the end of this term, showing progress made towards the minimum targets set for students. We welcome comments from you as this process of monitoring progress will be repeated in the spring and summer terms.

Many students will have received valuable presents for Christmas, please remind your son/daughter not to bring valuable items such as jewellery, electronic devices and mobile telephones into school with them as we cannot be held responsible for them or refund the value of such items if lost or stolen. Mobile telephones and electronic devices are not allowed during the school day.

The list of the school uniform is available on the school website (a paper copy will be available on request from the school office) and I would like to remind you that students are not allowed to wear hooded sweatshirts/jackets. During the winter such items are not an alternative to an outdoor coat. The uniform list also states that students should wear plain black shoes (not patent leather). This means, therefore, that canvas pumps or any kind of trainers should not be worn. We have high expectations of our students and a high standard of uniform is essential for everyone in our community.

I would like to remind you that certain students within school are eligible for Free School Meals. If you feel your child may fall within this category you will be able to find more information on Sefton Council's website www.sefton.gov.uk. Please click on 'Schools and Learning' then 'Grants and Funding' to reach the information on Free School Meals.

For those children in receipt of Free School Meals there is a financial benefit to both the family and the school, also since the school moved to a cashless system in the school canteen, pupils in receipt of Free School Meals have money paid directly into their accounts. Therefore, in this discrete way, their receipt of Free School Meals remains anonymous to others.

Could parents and carers please note that payments for school trips and school meals can now be made online via the payment system www.schoolgateway.com or on the mobile app. We are no longer able to accept cheque payments. Please be mindful when using the service that you must have sufficient funds available in the accounts you wish to transfer from.

Yours sincerely



Mr K Sexton
Acting Headteacher