

July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Further to Mr Thompson's letter, I would like to take this opportunity to commend your child on their fantastic efforts and attitudes during the induction days; we are very much looking forward to starting the new academic year with them! On behalf of the Leadership Team, I would like to remind parents of some of the key messages that were given to you during the induction process and are important priorities for the start of the academic year.

Uniform Reminders

All students must wear the compulsory full school uniform, all of which can be purchased from Bakers in Wellington. Please note that HLC now has a compulsory school bag too, which all students are required to have. The compulsory uniform consists of:

- Black blazer embroidered with HLC logo
- School tie (in relevant House colour)
- White standard school shirt
- Black trousers - **these should be a tailored fit and must not be too tight, or with a high proportion of Lycra in the material (leggings, jeggings, jeans are not permissible). In addition to this, trousers should not be of the cropped style or be torn or ripped.**
- Black skirt (knee length, no elasticated mini-skirts or wide belts)
- Black formal shoes - please note that **trainers and pumps are not permissible.**
- HLC school bag with logo (there are two types, both of which can be purchased from Bakers).

In addition to this, students are also only allowed one small stud ear ring per ear and no facial piercings at all for health and safety reasons. False nails/ painted nails are not permitted either for similar health and safety reasons. Hair needs to be a natural colour - no extreme styles please! School uniform for our Muslim students is slightly modified, details of which can be found on our school website.

Mobile Phones Reminder

Students are not permitted to have their mobile phones out in school. The rule states that phones are switched off and kept in their school bags. If they do need to get in touch with you, students may ask the permission of a teacher. Again, the presence of mobile phones can be a distraction to young people and we like to encourage positive learning behaviours. Furthermore, with the developments in technology, many students have 'Smart' phones, which use 3G/4G signals and are therefore not linked to our filters that we have to have in school to protect students; the use of mobiles phones in school, therefore, can make it difficult to keep students safe. All students have attended assemblies about the issue and we would be grateful if you could reinforce this message with your child. Please note that if students break these rules their phones will be taken off them and kept in a safe place until being returned at the end of the school day; they will receive a sanction for this.

PTO



Executive Principal: Mr Paul Roberts
Headteacher (Primary): Mrs Maddie Griffin
Headteacher (Secondary): Mr Daniel Roycroft



Energy Drinks

At our school we try to promote healthy lifestyles with all students. Whilst it is not feasible to 'police' what students eat all of the time, can I please ask that students are not sent to school with fizzy drinks and excessive amounts of sweets. In particular, energy drinks are banned in the school (including *Red Bull*, *Rockstar* and other brands). The contents of these drinks are not conducive to learning and can have an extremely detrimental effect on young people. Any energy drinks found will be removed. It would also be appreciated if parents could discourage students from having such drinks before school; there is a clear link between consumption of these drinks and poor attitudes to learning. Students may bring a water bottle to school which can be refilled at the water point in the restaurant area during break and lunchtime.

Pay system for lunch and school trips

For the first few days of term, students will be able to pay for meals using cash until we have registered pupils onto our cashless system. Once this is completed, students will need to put money onto their accounts using one of the machines we have in the building. Within a few weeks, a login will be sent to you directly at home to enable you to put money on your child's account online. It would be very helpful if you could use this online payment system to make break and lunchtimes operate more efficiently for both your child and the school.

Locker Keys

Lockers always prove useful for students to have in school so that they don't have to carry around heavy bags all day. If students would like a locker from September, they will need to bring in £5 and pass this to their Form Tutor.

Homework

Homework is set for all year groups in line with the school's homework policy which can be found on our website. All homework is set through an online system called 'Show My Homework' (an app can be downloaded for quick access to this). During the first two weeks of the school year, all students and parents will be issued with a log-on. A session for parents will be held early in the first half term to demonstrate how this works and students will be shown the advantage of this system during Form Time. Please note that there is now no need for a paper homework diary.

We hope you will support us in maintaining high standards in our school. They may seem small things, but they are crucial in creating an environment that encourages learning, behaviour and ultimately the excellent outcomes we help our students to achieve. Many thanks again for your support. If you would like to discuss anything further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Hignett
Deputy Headteacher



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