

PDH/LDD

July 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

As the break for the summer holiday is approaching, I am writing to let you know of the arrangements for the last day of term on **Thursday 20 July 2017**. School finishes at **1:15pm** and students are expected to go home as normal using their usual form of transport. The school buses have been re-arranged to pick students up from the school at this time.

If students choose to go out for the afternoon they should only do so after they have first returned home. Students who do not live in Dalston will be instructed to leave on their normal buses and we would appreciate parents reinforcing this message with students to avoid potential conflict.

I also felt it was important that I took the opportunity to write to you all to make you aware of my expectations of students in the new academic year. There are a few occasions when we find ourselves in the position where parents/carers are unaware of some school rules and events and the following is for clarity so hopefully no misunderstandings occur:

#### **Uniform**

In general our students adhere very well to our uniform code and look very smart. As such our general rules and expectations remain the same for the new academic year. Our uniform policy is clear and I would like to draw attention to the items that most often cause conflict:

**Shirts/Blouses** – they must have a collar which is fastened by a top button as they are expected to be worn properly. This means that ties are done up and buttons always fastened.

**Shoes** – They should be **black** and **proper formal shoes** (*polishable*) with no colour or logos at all, which includes the heel, side or upper of the shoe. They are not to be black trainers. We advise you not to purchase any footwear manufactured by sportswear companies as these may not meet our uniform policy and students may be required to change them.

**Trousers** – These should be normal school trousers. They should not be in the style of jeans, made from denim or any other heavy cotton or cotton-type material. They should not hug the leg or be “skinny” in design. Some girls have taken to wearing trousers very tight to the leg and these will not be allowed next year as they are not appropriate for school.

**Skirts** – These must be at least knee length, A line or pleated style. They should not be tight and no Lycra tube skirts should be worn.

We have become increasingly aware of gold zips, logos etc. that adorn both trousers and skirts. Can I clarify that plain black trousers and skirts mean just that and logos, zips etc. should not be noticeable in any way.

#### **Hair and Make Up**

Hair should be in a style acceptable to the ethos of the school. Students should not have patterns or logos shaved into their hair, and it should not be of a colour which could be described as unconventional. Hair accessories should be discreet.

No make-up is to be worn in Years 7 to 9 while Years 10 and 11 are allowed to wear subtle make-up to school. Over the last term we have been working hard to enforce the school rules but unfortunately there are a very small number of students who do not comply with this basic rule. I would like to make it quite clear that any student wearing what we consider to be excessive make-up will be required to remove it fully. The school rules have not changed on this matter for several years and every student who joins our school is obliged to follow them. It is something that will be closely monitored over the next half term and if no distinct improvement is seen then we will have no option but to introduce a complete ban on make-up being worn.

### **Jewellery**

No jewellery except for one stud earring per ear lobe may be worn. No other piercings are allowed (watches are not counted as jewellery).

### **Blazers**

Caldew badged blazers are available and are an optional uniform item. They can be purchased from The Uniform Shop and worn as an alternative to the school jumper.

### **Village Before School**

Students are not allowed to go into the village once they have been dropped off at school. The students are discharged into the care of the school once they arrive here and under no circumstances should they be going into the village at this time. They will be turned back if a member of staff on duty sees them.

### **Dates for Next Year**

#### ***Autumn Term***

INSET Day	Monday	04.09.17	
INSET Day	Tuesday	05.09.17	
Whole School	Wednesday	06.09.17 - Tuesday	19.12.17
Half-term Holiday	Monday	23.10.17 - Friday	27.10.17
Christmas Holiday	Wednesday	20.12.17 - Tuesday	02.01.18

#### ***Spring Term***

INSET Day	Wednesday	03.01.18	
Whole School	Thursday	04.01.18 - Thursday	29.03.18
Half-term Holiday	Monday	12.02.18 - Friday	16.02.18
Easter Holiday	Friday	30.03.18 - Friday	13.04.18

(Good Friday 30.03.18 / Easter Monday 02.04.18)

#### ***Summer Term***

Whole School	Monday	16.04.18 - Friday	20.07.18
Early May Bank Holiday	Monday	07.05.18	
Half-term Holiday	Monday	28.05.18 - Friday	01.06.18

### ***Parents' Evenings***

On occasions we do have parents/carers say they cannot attend Parents' Evenings due to the fact they have only just found out the relevant dates. To avoid this we have always published the dates on our website as well as printing them in each student's planner. The Parents' Evenings for next year are below, with all starting at 5.30pm:

Year 7	Wednesday 11 October	Tutor Evening
	Thursday 19 April	Parents' Evenings

Year 8	Wednesday 11 October	Tutor Evening
	Thursday 21 June	Parents' Evening
Year 9	Wednesday 11 October	Tutor Evening
	Thursday 8 March	Parents'/Options Evening
Year 10	Thursday 12 October	Tutor Evening
	Wednesday 22 November	Parents' Evening
Year 11	Thursday 12 October	Tutor Evening
	Thursday 25 January	Parents' Evening
	Thursday 1 March	6 <sup>th</sup> Form Open Evening
Year 12	Thursday 12 October	Tutor Evening
	Wednesday 7 February	Parents' Evening
Year 13	Thursday 12 October	Tutor Evening
	Wednesday 6 December	Parents' Evening

It leaves me to wish you all a lovely summer and thank all of you for your support. It is by working together that we ultimately achieve the best for our students. The relationship between parents/carers and teachers is fundamental to students achieving their potential and I am very much looking forward to working with you to ensure the best outcomes for your children over the coming years.

Yours sincerely



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Headteacher

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