



31st March 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

It is hard to believe that we are already at the end of the spring term and have arrived at the Easter break.

As you will be aware, it has been a busy term for us at Tottingham High School and we have made a number of significant changes to improve the school experience for all of our young people. I would like to thank all parents and carers for your support with the changes that we have introduced – it is only with by working together in partnership that we can provide the very best education for our learners. You will recall that one of the changes that we introduced was a ban on mobile phones in school. This has been very well accepted by pupils and we have seen that over the last two weeks of the term, the number of times that we have had to ‘confiscate’ a phone has reduced. All of the changes that we have introduced, including the ban on mobile phones, will of course continue after the Easter break.

We are working hard to ensure that we recognise the efforts and commitment of the vast majority of pupils who work extremely well every day. Perhaps your child is one of many who have so far received one of our new praise postcards or a positive phone call home in recognition of their efforts. If not, I am sure their continued good efforts will be rewarded in our new scheme of celebration.

For further information, please find below a few reminders about key dates and processes that I hope you will find useful. **Please discuss the contents of this letter with your child.**

Uniform

Since first embarking on uniform standards last November, this is much improved. Again, thank you for your support with this.

As you will recall from my previous letter, any student not in full school uniform is not allowed to attend classes. We do have some footwear and spare ties available and we expect students without these correct items to borrow from the school stock. For any student who we cannot replace an item for, or refuses to do so, we contact parents/carers to either bring correct uniform to school or to collect their child and return to school properly dressed. Students remain in isolation and are given work until the issue is resolved. The only exception to not wearing an item of uniform is a medical reason, which needs to be evidenced by a medical note, not a parental letter.

Please be advised that false nails and nail varnish are not allowed in school. If your child is wearing **false nails or nail polish** over the Easter break, please ensure that this is removed in readiness for the start of the new term.

Punctuality

The vast majority of our students have excellent punctuality and this continues to improve. The system of lunchtime detentions on the same day as late arrival without valid reason is working well. We are grateful for your continued support in ensuring that your child arrives on time and has a positive start to their day.

Sanction Room

On occasion, some of our learners need to access the ‘sanction room’ for a period of time away from mainstream lessons and to ‘re-track’ their behaviour.

We are introducing some amendments to the way the room operates and these changes will be in place from after Easter.

- The timing of the sanction room day will be extended until 4:15pm. The start time remains the same as the current start of school time.

- Pupils working in the sanction room will be allowed to bring their own lunch or will be able to order sandwiches from a set menu.

Toilet Breaks

During the school day, there are frequent breaks. This gives students the opportunity to access toilet facilities hourly. If your child has a medical issue which means that they need to be allowed out of lessons more urgently than this, please ensure that the school is provided with a medical note to this effect. This policy is in place to ensure that learning time is maximised and disruptions to learning are minimised.

Contact Information

If you have recently changed your telephone contact number or address, we would be grateful if you would update this via the school office. Due to changes in data protection legislation, we are no longer able to send home the data sheets for checking and therefore would be grateful for your assistance in helping to keep our contact information up to date.

Year 11 Preparation for Examinations

For our Year 11 students, this is the final school holiday that they will have before the start of the GCSE examinations. Although we acknowledge that it is essential to rest and relax, we would ask parents and carers of students in Year 11 to ensure that they make the most of their time to get revision underway and to develop a planned revision schedule. Easter workshops have been taking place and attendance has been good so many thanks for your support.

The final GCSE examinations are imminent, starting on the 13th May and running until the 18th June.

Finally, we have launched our **new app** and have over 40% of parents already on it which will ease communication much further for us. **Please sign up soon.**

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and to wish all of our families a happy and continued restful Easter break.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. B. Duffy
Headteacher

Neville Kenyon
Chair of Academy Council