

THE ECCLESBOURNE SCHOOL



ESTOR IN PEOPLE

Head Teacher **James McNamara** BA(Hons); NPQH

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8th September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

I would like to start by welcoming everyone back this term and say how pleased I have been with the attitude and approach of our students in commencing the next stage of their learning with us.

Life in Ecclesbourne Sixth Form is exceptionally enriching and rewarding, and we are about to embark or continue an exciting chapter in your child's life together. We know from experience that we do the best job of supporting our students when we work closely in partnership with you as parents and carers. This letter highlights some areas of importance ahead of the next academic year.

Sixth Form students are leaders of the school community. Therefore, Year 12 and 13 are expected to exhibit the highest standards of application, uniform, conduct, punctuality, and attendance.

Uniform

At the start of this calendar year, we embarked on a period of consultation with our students, parents and staff to ensure that our Sixth Form uniform remains appropriate for a professional, working environment. If we do notice an issue with your son / daughter's uniform, we will speak to the student and aim to contact you as soon as possible. We would appreciate your support to ensure that any issues are resolved within seven days.

Punctuality

Ecclesbourne Sixth Form students are punctual and arrive promptly to be in form and ready to be registered at 9.00am each day. Should your son / daughter be late to school with a valid reason, we ask that you contact Sixth Form Office before 11.00am on the day in question. Any student that arrives late without a valid reason will be issued with a break time detention. Lates for afternoon registration without good reason will lead to loss of offsite privilege the next school day and repeated lateness can lead to loss of offsite lunch all together. Text messages will be sent automatically to inform you.

Attendance

Sixth Form students are expected to attend all their lessons and remain on site for the duration of the school day, apart from lunch time. Sixth formers are permitted to leave school slightly earlier at 3:15pm (if they do not have a lesson). If your son / daughter is unwell and cannot make it into school, please contact the school (01332 843200) on the morning of the first day of absence. I would also like to take this opportunity to remind you that driving lessons are permitted in school hours but only in study time and **must not** include morning or afternoon registration or PDC.

Prize Day

Finally, I would like to remind you that Prize Day is scheduled for Friday 29th September. Prize Day is the highlight of the school year and is our opportunity to reward and celebrate student achievement. <u>All sixth form students</u> <u>are expected to attend</u> this important event. Students are expected to arrive at school for 6.30pm and in recognition of this they will be allowed home early from school on the day and will not be expected in school for the afternoon session.

Other important dates

Year 12 Information Evening, **20**th **September** in the English Theatre and should last approximately 1 hour. In this session you will receive information on how to support your child in making the most of Sixth Form and what key dates and activities will take place in the first year.

Year 13 Post 18 Booster Evening, 3rd October

Here you will be reminded about key dates regarding post 18 choices and support in how to help your child in their choices. We will also provide information on what to expect as applications are processed and results are received.

Sixth Form Open Evening, 5th October

The site will be open to students and their families. They will be able to explore the subjects they are considering at A level should they join us in Sixth Form. There will be subject talks, rooms open with students currently studying these courses and the Sixth form centre itself will be open to show potential Year 11 what we do and what we are all about. We will therefore require volunteers to staff subject areas and Sixth Form.

Early entry support

We will be running our annual talk to students interested in Medicine, Veterinary or Dentistry or Oxford or Cambridge entry on Monday at 3.45pm it is estimated to take about an hour. Students will get to talk to last year's Year 13 students who successfully achieved a place on these courses or establishments to gain support in their applications and they will also get to speak to those already a year in so they can ask about the reality of what it is like to follow these pathways. All students are welcome.

Cars

We ask that all students who drive to school register their vehicles with Sixth Form office.

Vaping

A reminder that students are not permitted to vape in school or in school uniform. We have a zero tolerance to this to support student well-being and the influence that our Sixth formers have on younger students. We ask for your support in this matter.

On behalf of the Sixth Form Office team, I would like to wish you all the best for the coming academic year and reassure you that we are here to help now and throughout your child's time with us.

Should you wish to discuss any element within this letter please do not hesitate to get in touch with me via the school contact details.

Yours faithfully,

Hannah Weller Assistant Headteacher (Head of Sixth Form)