



THE ECCLESBOURNE SCHOOL

'Learning Together For The Future'

Head Teacher
James McNamara BA(Hons); NPQH

Wirksworth Road, Duffield, Belper: DE56 4GS
Tel: (01332) 840645 Fax: (01332) 841871
Web: www.ecclesbourne.org.uk
email: info@ecclesbourne.derbyshire.sch.uk



21 July 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of the academic year, and the summer holidays draw close. I just wanted to share some information about support in the summer holidays and a request for your support with our uniform policy.

Return to school

Uniform

It is expected that all students will travel to and from school every day in neat, clean uniform giving the clear message that our students take pride in belonging to The Ecclesbourne School. Students who do not abide by the uniform policy may expect to be given an after-school detention, supplied with the correct uniform or removed from circulation. We thank you in advance for your support in ensuring all our students wear their uniform correctly. It is strongly recommended that parents and carers are present when uniform is purchased and refer to the current uniform policy.

There have been some amendments to the uniform policy. Most notably:

- **In a change to our policy, designed to make uniform affordable and to allow students a little more choice, girls may purchase charcoal grey trousers from any supplier. However, our school suppliers have a range of different trousers in stock.**
- **Students who wear a school skirt must ensure the hem is below mid-thigh and must not roll their skirt up at any point during the school stay. Where a child does this then parents will be contacted, and we will ask that their child wears trousers.**
- Plain outdoor coats may be worn in inclement weather, but they must not wear hoodies or tracksuit tops.
- Non-compliant outdoor clothing will be removed and returned at the end of the day. Where a second infringement occurs parents will be asked to collect the garment from Reception.
- Students should not wear trainers and will be supplied with school shoes for the day if they do so and parents will be contacted to ensure they come in the correct footwear the next day.

The full uniform policy can be accessed via [this link](#).

Attendance and lateness

We would like to begin the new academic year with everyone aware of, and compliant with, our day-to-day routines. If we get the small things right then we have time to focus on more important matters such as student progress, well-being and safety.

All students are expected to be in their form rooms by 9.00am so they are ready for assemblies and the activities they complete with their tutor. Students will therefore need to arrive at the school gate by 8.55am so they are not

deemed as late. Any child that arrives after 9.00am will be classed as late and be given a same day sanction. If lateness persists then you will be contacted so that school and home can work together to improve this.

If a child arrives after 9.25am then this will count as half a day of unauthorised attendance as directed by the Department for Education Guidance, 'Working Together to Improve Attendance'.

If your child is due to be absent from school for an appointment, we request that you give the school at least 48 hours' notice where possible so we can update the registers accordingly. If your child is ill, then please contact school before 9.00am so we are aware where your child is. If you do not inform the school of an absence, then you will be contacted as quickly as possible so we can ascertain the whereabouts of your child.

If you have any concerns around your child's absence, then please contact our attendance officer Louise Monk at lmonk@ecclesbourne.derbyshire.sch.uk

Support throughout the summer

Safeguarding

The summer holidays can be a stressful time for families with changes to routine and young people wanting to spend more time with their peers.

If at any point you have any concerns about your child, then you can contact a member of the safeguarding team during the summer holidays at Safeguarding@ecclesbourne.derbyshire.sch.uk

Alternatively, please visit the safeguarding centre on our website for a number of links to external agencies and advice and support. [Student Wellbeing Centre | Ecclesbourne School](#)

The school reception will also be open from 9.00 until 4.00 Monday to Friday apart from any Bank Holiday and the direct line is 01332 843200. Reception can then direct you as applicable.

Concerns in the community

Over the last year in the news, it has been reported that more young people are losing their lives to drowning. We therefore ask that you ensure that you know where your child is at all times and talk to them specifically about wild water swimming, especially in areas where there are strong currents and limited adult supervision around.

We have recently been informed that there are vapes been offered to young people in Derbyshire that could possibly contain illegal substances that could make them ill. We therefore ask that you are vigilant as to what your child could be doing and talk to them about the dangers of illegal substances and engaging with strangers either face-to-face or online. Please remind your child that they should not be smoking any substances as they are under the age of 18. In addition, vapes on average are equivalent to smoking 35 cigarettes and could cause long-term damage to their lungs, blood circulation and heart. I shall be writing again at the start of the autumn term with more information on the dangers of vaping and the school rules around this.

Duffield Parish Council have written to the school about the work they are doing over the summer holiday to help ensure that behaviour in the local area is as it should be. The Parish Council ask that parents and carers speak with their children about how to conduct themselves courteously and behave responsibly when out and about to help to keep the village a safe and enjoyable place for all residents and visitors.

Cost of living crisis

We are aware that there are many families that are struggling financially due to the cost-of-living crisis. This is one of the reasons why we have made changes to the uniform policy so you are less constricted as to where you can purchase uniform from.

Students are expected to arrive at school with the correct equipment needed to fully access all lessons and equipment checks will be carried out. If you feel you need support with uniform or stationery, then please contact Mrs. Green who will try and support you with these requests.

If you live in Derbyshire, you may be eligible for a one-off payment to cover a variety of things. Again, please contact Mrs. Green on hgreen@ecclesbourne.derbyshire.sch.uk for further information.

During the summer holidays you can also access a number of cafes and restaurants where children can either eat for free or at a very discounted price. The following link will take you to participating providers and is shown on our website. [Kids Eat Free List \(ecclesbourne.derbyshire.sch.uk\)](#)

In addition, if you go to any Morrisons café and 'ask for Ellen' then each member of your household will be given two crumpets with butter and jam. We would also like to signpost you to the Padley Foodbank if you need support with provisions. Many of our families this year have donated to this charity, and they provide much needed support to families in need.

I would like to wish all our parents, carers and families a restful holiday.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Clarissa Ourabi'.

Clarissa Ourabi
Deputy Head and Designated Safeguarding Lead