



THE ECCLESBOURNE SCHOOL

'Learning Together For The Future'

Head Teacher
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Dear Parent/Carer

As we reach the end of a very busy term for Sixth Form students, I would like to take the time to thank you for your support this year and to highlight some key information and dates that will help you support your child over the next few months.

We had our final Post 18 event for Year 12 this month, which saw input from Sheffield Hallam University, JCB apprenticeship recruiters and a host of past students who brought their experiences in Early entry, Oxbridge, apprenticeship applications and student life at university. Our past students were able to advise on applications and finances, accommodation and how to make the most of the student experience as first years. With talks from employers such as JCB and returning Ecclesbourne alumni, year 12 students were guided through assessment centre procedures for apprenticeships and learned about the key skills, attributes and experiences which will help their applications stand out.

Over the year students have used UNIFROG to widen their knowledge and they have been guided through the application processes for different routes. To ensure that they feel confident on how to proceed they have been guided to power points on Show My Homework which will help guide them through the process of completing UCAS searches, finding courses and apprenticeships and on how to complete application and write personal statements.

We will be holding a Booster Post 18 session for parents on the Tuesday 1st October 2024 to help answer any further questions or queries you may have on post 18 options.

Other key dates to book in include Prize Day, which for Sixth Form is held in the evening. This is on Friday 27th September. An evening to celebrate success and dedication on many different fronts, we expect all students to attend. They will be able to leave at lunchtime to return for 7pm. Students very often have part time work and so we are giving notice to ensure that they can inform employers of their school commitment.

As a school (as opposed to a Sixth Form College) we have a traditional approach to attendance. Our students benefit from supervised study periods, state of the art resources and library and a well-being and enrichment curriculum alongside their A Level subject lessons. Attendance for the full school day, each day of the week is compulsory.

We have very high levels of full attendance at Ecclesbourne, but the national picture is concerning and rates of persistent absence across the country are at their highest for years. The Department for Education has called on all schools to share with parents their approach to ensuring excellent attendance and so we have put in place a clear expectation and procedure that will be followed if attendance is lower than expected. To help students and their parents and carers to fully understand our approach to attendance we have revised our Sixth Form policy. It would be helpful for you to read it and so a copy can be found here:

[Sixth Form Attendance Policy \(ecclesbourne.derbyshire.sch.uk\)](http://ecclesbourne.derbyshire.sch.uk)

Finally, I would like to bring your attention to our Bursary fund which supports students in their courses, where financial difficulties may impede their experience. The link for our policy which gives all the details, and our application form are found on the link below:

[16-19 Bursary Fund | Ecclesbourne School](#)

I wish all our Year 12 a fabulous holiday and we look forward to seeing you on our first day of term on Monday 9th September 8.50am for 9am start in forms.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H Weller', on a light grey background.

Hannah Weller
Head of Sixth Form