



3 July 2026

Dear Parents & Families,

As we approach the final few weeks of term I wanted to send you a brief update of key information to support all families and the students.

Firstly, well done to our students following their return to school following last week's closure. It has been great to see how students have got back into routine so quickly. It was also pleasing to welcome our Year 6's yesterday for induction day. Our Year 9's did a brilliant job acting as student leaders for the day, supporting our new students to find their feet and the tutor team to make sure the day was a success.

Attendance

As we approach the final days of the year, it is very typical for students to feel tired. The warm weather has also contributed to this fatigue. Nevertheless, the final few days of the year are just as important as the first few days. We have a range of activities and celebration events that we would like every child to be involved in. It is also important that you are aware that many subjects are still completing assessments or providing marked assessments with feedback. These missed lessons will have an impact on your child's start to the year and progression in subjects. Therefore it is imperative that attendance continues to be maintained.

Uniform

Having reviewed the forecast for the next week, it is apparent that the warm weather continues. However, it currently looks unlikely that temperatures will reach the levels of the previous week. For this reason, our current arrangements for uniform will continue. These are as follows-

Blazers are optional.

Ties must be worn.

Students are encouraged to remove their V-neck sweaters (these remain optional).

Shirts must stay tucked in at all times.

Knee-length tailored shorts or pleated skirts are allowed. Please ensure skirts are worn at this appropriate length.

Formal black shoes and plain dark socks are still required.

If a student arrives dressed incorrectly, we will direct them to the uniform hub to find a suitable solution. Please be aware that we may contact you for your support in resolving these issues.

To assist students during the peak heat of the afternoon, we will implement a relaxed dress code on warmer days beginning at Period 3. From this point forward, students are



permitted to take off their ties and are not required to put them back on for the remainder of the school day.

Staying Comfortable & Hydrated

We also recommend the following over the next few weeks:

Send your child with a full water bottle every day to help them stay hydrated.

Consider having them bring a sensible hat to protect them from the sun during breaks.

Please ensure your child applies sunscreen if they'll be outside for extended periods, like during PE lessons.

Short-sleeve shirts can be a cooler choice.

Reminders

As the weather remains warm, we know that a number of students would prefer to wear a skirt. However, we have noticed a number of students have started to roll up their skirts, which means that they do not conform to our uniform expectations. Students are reminded that skirts should not be rolled up at any point during the day and they will be requested by staff to adjust as required.

Furthermore, a number of students have arrived at school with colouring and streaks in their hair. Please be advised that our dress code clearly stipulates that extreme hair and unnatural colouring are not allowed and students will be asked to remove this immediately. Please ensure that your child resists the temptation to do this in the final 8 days of school.

Enrichment Days

Enrichment Activity Days will take place on 14th and 15th July. Bookings and payments are now closed, so please check Arbor to confirm your child's placement. Detailed information regarding equipment, dress codes, and trip advice for specific locations has been sent via email and Arbor; please review this thoroughly in advance. All students must arrive at the normal time of 8:40 am each day. School-based activities will conclude at the usual time of 3:15 pm, and specific return times for off-site trips will be shared during the week commencing 6th July. If your child normally catches a bus or does not walk home, please ensure you arrange alternative transport for trips returning later than the end of the school day. Finally, please note that there will be no extra-curricular clubs running during this week.

Work Experience

As we approach the end of the academic year, we would like to remind you that the Year 10 Work Experience week will take place commencing Monday 13th July. This is a fantastic opportunity for our students to gain valuable real-world insights, and we expect them to fully comply with all workplace requirements and professional standards set by



their hosts. Our main goal is for every student to gain an enjoyable, rewarding, and highly enriching experience from their placement. Please note that students will have either a three-day, four-day, or five-day work experience during this week. To ensure everything is running smoothly and to support our students in their new environments, a member of the school staff will be conducting a check-in (either in person or via telephone) for every student while they are on-site.

Final Day of Term

Our final day for most students will be Wednesday 15th July except for some students involved in Year 10 Work Experience or the Summer Camp.

Other Dates for the Diary

GCSE Results Day will be on Thursday 20th August 2026. We will write to all Year 11 students and families shortly to outline the arrangements for collecting results.

The new academic year will start on Monday 7th September 2026. This will be a staggered start. Arrangements are as follows-

Monday 7th September- Years 7 & 11 only.
Tuesday 8th September- All year groups.

I will write to you all again before the end of the school year to outline and update everyone to provide important updates and information ahead of the new academic year.

Thank you for your continued support as always.

Yours sincerely

Mr P Balkwill
Headteacher