

Ref: DY/LK

11<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to you as we come to the end of another very busy half term. Following the recent Ofsted visit, we are awaiting our report, we will share it with you as soon as we have it. There will be a Facebook Live session and a parent/carer forum (in person) following this, so parents/carers can ask any questions. Thank you to everyone who completed the Ofsted Parent View questionnaire, it really does mean a lot to us that 96% of parents would recommend our school to another parent.

### **Standards**

The vast majority of our students are in the appropriate uniform including footwear, have the correct PE kit, and school bag and are equipped for a full day of learning. We believe wearing a uniform is an important part of school life as having the proper attire demonstrates the correct attitude to learning.

### **Uniform/PE Kits**

As you know, due to Covid and certain restrictions, we did relax some of our uniform rules around the wearing of PE kits on PE days. However from Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February, all students will wear full school uniform every day including the days timetabled for PE. Students will use the changing rooms to change into their PE kit at the beginning of the lesson, before changing back into uniform at the end of their PE lesson. Students who have PE last lesson of the day will be allowed to go home in PE kit.

Maintaining the highest standards of uniform is a challenge for all schools and we value the support that we receive from you in upholding our standards. May I draw your attention to aspects of our uniform code that we will continue to maintain on our return to school:

- Footwear: only black shoes are permitted. No trainers, boots or trainer style shoes are allowed.
- Outdoor coats: not to be worn inside the school building. Persistent offenders will have coats confiscated for the remainder of the school day.
- Jewellery: one pair of stud earrings.
- Make up: make up and nail varnish are not allowed.

### **Mobile Phones/Smart Watches**

Due to a small number of incidents during the school day involving students using mobile devices we have reviewed our policy on mobile phones and smart watches. We feel the changes outlined below will ensure that mobile phones/watches are used during the school day for educational purposes only.

Students may bring their mobile phone/watch to school with them. However, students should not be seen using their devices during the school day including break, lunch, change over between lessons and any after school study support/clubs. If a student is seen with their mobile phone it will be confiscated by a member of staff.

Phone confiscated for the <b>1<sup>st</sup></b> occasion	Phone stored in a secure safe and student receives phone back at the end of the school day.
Phone confiscated for the <b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> occasion	Phone stored in a secure safe and Parent/Carer to collect phone from the school's main office.
Phone confiscated for the <b>3<sup>rd</sup></b> occasion	Phone stored in a secure safe and Parent/Carer to collect phone from the school's main office.  Student to hand phone in every morning for a fixed period of time. Student can collect phone back at the end of each day.

Unfortunately, there will be further sanctions put in place if a student refuses to hand over the mobile phone/watch to a member of staff when instructed to do so. The sanctions may range from internal isolation to a fixed-term exclusion.

Students calling or texting their parents/carers during the school day is causing us some issues. May I ask you to please remind your child that they should not message you during the school day, and they must inform a member of staff in school if there is a problem. I urge parents to telephone school in the usual way if they need to make contact with their child during the school day.

### **Year 11**

Public examinations will go ahead this year. In the coming weeks we will issue support materials for our Year 11 students.

Mock examinations will take place over a two week period from 7<sup>th</sup> March to 18<sup>th</sup> March 2022.

We will be holding study support sessions for Year 11 as follows:

Easter from Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2022 9.30 a.m. - 2.30 p.m.  
May Half Term from Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May to Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2022 9.30 a.m. - 2.30 p.m.  
*NB: Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June and Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June are bank holidays.*

We will be holding two Year 11 Open Forums. These are opportunities for parents/carers and students to meet in person with myself and colleagues to discuss how best we can support families through this important period of time.

Students in Year 11 will not be going on study leave as we believe it is vital that students are with us for the maximum time leading to the GCSE examinations.

Our Year 11 Leavers' Assembly will take place on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2022 @ 11.00 a.m. and the Prom will be held at Aintree Racecourse on the evening of Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022.

GCSE results day is on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> August 2022. Students can collect their results from 10.00 a.m.

### **Year 9 Options**

The process for Year 9 students has now started for their option choices. There will be a Year 9 Parents' Evening (Virtual) for parents/carers to have meetings with all class teachers on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2022 3.30 p.m. - 6.30 p.m; and a Year 9 Options Information Evening (in Person) on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March 5.30 p.m. - 6.30 p.m. where senior leaders will go through the options process with parents/carers and students. Further information will be shared after half term.

### **Attendance and Punctuality**

Attendance and punctuality is a huge priority for us, and we have continued to be above national average throughout the pandemic. Students are expected to meet or exceed the Government's minimum individual attendance requirement of 95%. Parents should provide medical evidence or a note of explanation to the attendance office on the day of return after a period of absence.

Students are expected to be in school by 8.50 a.m. Arriving later will result in being marked as late, which will result in parental contact and detention.

### **Livo Literary Festival**

We are very excited to announce that our very first Livo Literary Festival will be taking place from 28<sup>th</sup> February to 4<sup>th</sup> March 2022. World Book Day also falls within this week on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March and students are welcome to dress up as their favourite character from a book if they wish. There will be lots of activities taking place during the week and we will be sharing the programme of events with everyone very soon.

### **Covid**

Please continue to complete home testing. All students who are involved in the testing programme have received additional tests today. The second round of Covid vaccinations for those students who have consent will be taking place in the next couple of weeks, we will inform students and parents/carers as soon as we have the date.

### Key Dates

Please see below key dates for the remainder of the academic year.

SPRING TERM		
<b>Year 11 Open Forum</b>	Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2022	5.00 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.
<b>Livo Literary Festival</b>	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> February to Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> March 2022	
<b>Year 11 Mock Examinations</b>	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> March to Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> March 2022	
<b>Year 9 Parents' Evening (Virtual)</b>	Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2022	3.30 p.m. – 6.30 p.m.
<b>Year 9 Options Evening (In Person)</b>	Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> March 2022	5.30 p.m. – 6.30 p.m.
<b>Year 7 Parents' Evening (Virtual)</b>	Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March 2022	3.30 p.m. – 6.30 p.m.
<b>End of Spring Term</b>	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2022	12.30 p.m. finish
<b>Year 11 Study Support</b>	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	9.30 a.m. – 2.30 p.m.
SUMMER TERM		
<b>First Day of Summer Term</b>	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	
<b>Year 11 Open Forum</b>	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	5.00 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.
<b>Year 8 Parents' Evening (Virtual)</b>	Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	3.30 p.m. – 6.30 p.m.
<b>Half Term</b>	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> May to Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2022	
<b>Year 11 Study Support</b>	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> May to Wed 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2022	9.30 a.m. – 2.30 p.m.
<b>First Day back after half term</b>	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> June 2022	
<b>Year 11 Leavers' Assembly</b>	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June 2022	11.00 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.
<b>Year 11 Prom</b>	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2022	7 p.m. onwards
<b>Last Day of Summer Term</b>	Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> July 2022	12.30 p.m. finish

I hope you and your family have an enjoyable half term break. School will reopen again on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2022.

Please do not hesitate to contact your child's Heads of Year, Subject Leader or myself if you have any queries.

Yours faithfully



Mr D. Yates  
Principal