



## ***Inspiring Learning, Achieving Excellence***

Headteacher: Mr Adam Shelley MEd, BSc Hons, PGCE, NPQH

27 April 2021

Dear Parents

I wanted to first of all welcome everyone back after the first week of the Summer Term and say how pleased I have been with attendance as well as the students' engagement in their learning. I have shown several new parents and students around over the last few weeks and they have been extremely complementary about the school, what a fantastic atmosphere there is and how great it is to see the students actively engaged in lessons. This has been a great start to what we hope will be a more normal term. It is fantastic to have better weather, which has allowed us to open up more sports clubs to different year groups as well as more afterschool clubs including Homework Club.

I would like to say to Year 11 and 13 how fantastic it has been to see you working so hard to get those pieces of evidence ready for teachers to award grades this year, only 5 more weeks to go so keep going.

As I write this, Year 10 are trialling a virtual work experience day, as we have not been able to offer our normal Work Experience due to Covid. I am pleased we are still able to carry out work experience, as it is such an important part of preparing students for their next steps.

Year 9 have now completed the options process for their GCSE's next year and I saw some fantastic work from students in Year 7 and 8 last week which have been awarded with house points.

There is a real buzz around the school which is fantastic.

I also wanted to update you on changes to the summer uniform. During the Summer Term shorts may be worn, these need to be tailored knee length and plain black; fashionable or skinny fit shorts are not acceptable and neither are jeans, chino or tracksuit material styled shorts. Blazers do not have to be worn, however students who decide not to wear them should not wear jumpers just their shirt and tie. If they are cold, then they should put their blazer back on. Should the weather become excessively hot then ties will not have to be worn. Students will be advised by their tutors during tutor time, so must come to school with their tie on. I have listened to students, parents and staff views about some of the aspects of the school uniform for the Summer Term and have used this for this update; I hope that this will help us to keep students comfortable as they learn with us. I believe that a uniform is a good way to keep the school identity and also helps students from all backgrounds, as no one needs to keep up with the cost of the latest fashion, but also know that part of the school's role is to model society to prepare its students for the world of work where they will have to follow rules on appropriate clothing. I will of course keep reviewing the uniform so we can strike the right balance.

As ever thank you for your support as we work towards more normal times, it feels like we are getting there although we must still ensure we are taking appropriate measures to keep the school community safe.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Adam Shelley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Adam Shelley  
Headteacher