



Ashton Community Science College

Headteacher: Miss S Asquith BA Hons, MA, NPQH

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'a school to be proud of'

30th June 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

The end of term approaches and I would normally write to you in the final week to close the school year off and tell you about plans for September, but one thing we have all learnt this year is that times are by no means normal and plans can change quickly from one day to the next. Consequently, I am writing to inform you of plans in place so far for the end of the school year that are unlikely to change and to tell you that there will be another letter to follow before the end of term with further updates.

Moving up the school

You will hopefully know from conversations with your child that we have introduced all year groups to their new form tutors and progress leaders. For the final 3 weeks of term, students will spend form time with their new form tutors.

"Sportsfest"

We are excited to be holding our first ever sports festival this year, which we have called "SportsFest". It is a combination of competitive traditional sport and more fun physical activities that all students can participate in. This academic year has been a tough one, with many of the usual out of class activities cancelled because of Covid. SportsFest is our way to have some Covid safe fun! This event will take place on Friday 9th July and will run for the full day. Students may be released from school slightly earlier during form time if the awarding of medals and certificates finishes early, but this will be no more than 15 minutes earlier. Your child is welcome to stay on site until 3.00 pm if they need to.

Final day

School will close for the academic year at 1.15pm on Friday 16th July. Breaktime will be extended and hot and cold food provision will be offered to all students. There will be no lunchtime provision, so students will be encouraged to purchase something during the extended breaktime.

School calendar

Schools have been given an additional day off next year to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. This date has not been fixed and is at the discretion of the school to place in the calendar. I will confirm the full holiday pattern, including this additional day, in the next letter.



School uniform

You may recall that we consulted with students, parents and staff on our school uniform and as a result, changes were made.

It is expected that any student purchasing new uniform will purchase it in accordance with the changes, specifically the move from yellow to white blouses and the addition of a clip-on tie. Skirt length is always a contentious issue in any school and Ashton is no different. The requirement is that skirts should sit on the knee. They should not be rolled over at the waist to make them shorter, they should not be purchased in sizes that are too short, they should not sit anywhere above the knee, and certainly not mid-thigh. This has not changed. Students who wear their skirt inappropriately will be challenged to wear it properly and ultimately may be offered the loan of a skirt of an acceptable length or invited to wear school trousers as an alternative. School uniform is just that. It is uniform, designed to be modest, smart and functional. I know from conversations that many parents agree with this and I am grateful for your support in maintaining this standard.

Guiding the children through their teenage years and supporting them in accepting rules and standards is just one of our many roles as educators and parents. It is not always easy, and by working together we achieve the consistency between home and school that our children need to make the right choices.

I will be in touch again before the end of term with more information, which will include arrangements for the start of term in September, so please do look out for this letter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S. Asquith". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Miss S Asquith
Headteacher