



Together in the Pursuit of Excellence

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Dear Families,

I would like to extend a warm CHS welcome to all of you. We are excited to be working with new families in Yr7 and within our 6<sup>th</sup> Form College as well as welcoming back returning students. We were thrilled to see our 2024 exam cohorts achieving highly; we are so proud of each and every one of them. In this letter I wanted to highlight some key information that I hope will be useful to you all as we begin the academic year.

### **Return To School:**

To support the transition / return to school / to the 6<sup>th</sup> Form College we have phased the start of term with **Yr7,11 & 12 attending at 8.40am on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> Sept. All other year groups will return at 8.40am on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September.** We want to give you all the best possible start and the warmest welcome!

If you have moved into the area over the summer holidays and are joining us in years 8-12, we can't wait to help you settle in and look forward to the contribution you will make to our community.

### **Uniform:**

Summer holiday shopping trips are often challenging for parents/carers; especially when your child is very convincing in their pleas for false nails, shaved heads, pink hair, black trainers/pumps and nose studs.

Please do refer to our uniform policy for guidance, please click on the link to our policy which will help with those shopping conversations <https://www.congletonhigh.com/parents/school-uniform>

We are very proud to be handing our House ties to years 8-11 during their first registration period with form tutors. Students in Yrs12& 13 will receive their House lanyards. We will be pleased to accept and recycle former CHS ties / old uniform please bring it to our main reception.

We are delighted that DP Sports continue to be our uniform provider. They provide an excellent service so please do get in touch with them if you still need to purchase any items of uniform or need guidance on sizes <https://www.dpsportswear.co.uk/shop/Congleton-High-School-c150086580>

### **School Day:**

A reminder that our new school day timings take effect from 4<sup>th</sup> September 2024. Please ensure your child is on site by **8.35am** to ensure they are ready to begin their form period at **8.40am**. The school day ends at **15.10pm**. School transport has been adjusted in line with the new finishing time.

### **Moments matter, Attendance counts**

At Congleton High School we believe that if students are to gain the greatest benefit from their time at school, it is essential that they attend regularly.

The DfE have updated their requirements of schools regarding attendance, we will write to you shortly to explain how this may impact families.

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/66bf300da44f1c4c23e5bd1b/Working\\_together\\_to\\_improve\\_school\\_attendance\\_-\\_August\\_2024.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/66bf300da44f1c4c23e5bd1b/Working_together_to_improve_school_attendance_-_August_2024.pdf)

Our policy is being updated accordingly and will be published in September.

For all attendance queries, please contact Natalie Johnson (Attendance Officer) [attendance@congletonhigh.com](mailto:attendance@congletonhigh.com)

**Access to Site:**

My thanks to all families who supported us with managing traffic flow in and around the school. A gentle reminder that traffic will not be allowed to move on the school site when students are using the crossings on the school car park at the start and end of day. We also ask that families do not park opposite the entrances/exits to the school car park/bus car park or obstruct box lane as this prevents buses from leaving safely. Please be mindful of residents when using street parking.

Can I please ask that if your child walks to school they leave in good time and use the relevant traffic light controlled crossings so that they arrive safely and on time to school. Students cycling to school should ensure they wear a helmet.

**Allergies:**

At CHS we would like to remind students and staff not to bring nuts/nut products to school, we are working hard to support members of our community who have allergies. Your support with this is welcomed. Our staff will be receiving allergy training on our INSET days in September.

**Communication:**

We continue to be keen to improve our communication, part of this includes a parent forum. Please do let us know using the link below if you are interested in being part of regular surveys through the year to help us review our practice. <https://forms.office.com/e/iQiqsxiR5v>

**Staffing:**

At the end of term I updated you on staff who will be starting with us this September. We also have a number of staff stepping into new roles:

Name	Role
Mr Taylor	Year Team Leader Yr8
Mr Edwards	Head of Attenborough House
Miss Lomas	Head of Mandela House
Mrs Lindsay	Curriculum Team Leader Art
Mr Walsh	Deputy Curriculum Leader Art
Mrs Fitzsimmons	Assistant Curriculum Team Leader Science
Mrs Wilson Jones	Assistant Curriculum Team Leader Geography
Mr Davies	Deputy Curriculum Leader Business & Enterprise Faculty
Mr Capey	Assistant Head Quality of Education
Mr Gardner-McQueen	Assistant Head Inclusion and Culture

Finally, over the summer break Mrs Haney has made the choice to take a new direction professionally. Mrs Haney has given exceptional care and support to many students and their families, I am sure you will join me in wishing her every success in her new ventures!

We are very much looking forward to seeing you all next week!

Kind regards



Heidi Thurland  
Headteacher

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