



Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2019

Dear Parents,

## Important updates and reminders

We are really pleased with how the first term in school has gone so far. Our Year 7 students have made a successful transition to secondary school; whilst higher up the school Year 11 and Year 10 have maintained a positive focus on their GCSE studies. School events held so far have been a great success and we are genuinely proud of our whole school community.

### Tarleton Academy in Top 10 schools in Lancashire

In addition to this excellent start, the provisional 2019 performance tables for secondary schools have recently been published and we are delighted to be in the top 17% of schools nationally ([Tarleton Academy's school performance](#)) for the third year in a row and also the top 10 schools within Lancashire ([schools and colleges in lancashire](#)). We are extremely proud of all our staff, students and their families for their hard work and support in securing these fantastic outcomes for all our children across the whole ability range.

Although, examination results are undoubtedly important to the students and to the school, we are about and offer much more. Our relentless focus on individual and collective improvement ensures that we are always considering how we further improve and with this in mind we wanted to re-focus on a few key points which set the standards:

### Uniform and Appearance

We are proud of the fact that the vast majority of our students continually wear the correct uniform with pride. We did want to make you aware of a few areas we are focusing on:

- **All skirts should be at least knee length.** The expectation is that the skirt touches the top of the knee and allows room for growth. Over the next few weeks we will be ringing round parents where skirt length has become a concern.
- Please note that **footwear must be 'plain, black, smart, sturdy shoes'**, fit for purpose, especially as we are now in winter. Recently, there has been an increase in the number of students wearing 'trainer' styles or flimsy, fashion 'ballerina' style pumps which do not fit within the policy stated above. Again we will contact you if this is a concern so that new shoes can be in place as soon as possible.

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We understand that there maybe families who require financial support to rectify uniform issues. Please do not hesitate to contact the pastoral team if this is the case.

### **Chromebooks upkeep**

Chromebooks are proving to be an excellent support for learning. We really appreciate your support in making sure they are fit for use. As this is now basic equipment it is essential that all students bring their Chromebook to school on a daily basis, fully charged and with a set of basic headphones. Students who are borrowing Chromebooks must ensure that they collect them on a daily basis before the start of lesson 1 and must return them at the end of each day.

To support parents to keep a check on the upkeep of the devices we have undertaken a recent audit of how the devices are been looked after by students and we will respond to parents directly if we have concerns. We fully understand that these are expensive items and recommend that parents check their child's device on a regular basis. These devices should be able to support your child's learning throughout their secondary schooling, if looked after well.

If you have any questions or queries regarding any of the information within this letter, please do not hesitate to contact us at school on [enquiries@tarletonacademy.org](mailto:enquiries@tarletonacademy.org) .

### **Upcoming events and keeping in touch**

Please remember to regularly engage with the Academy's website and in particular our '[Latest News](#)' section and our new '[Tarleton Academy Blog](#)', to celebrate the collective and individual successes of our school alongside our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages.

### **Key Dates prior to Christmas:**

Please see below key dates for your diaries:

- Thursday 21st November - Year 8 Personal Tutor Evening 5.00pm-6.45pm
- Thursday 28th November - Year 11 Parents Evening 4.00pm-7.00pm
- Friday 29th November - INSET Day (School closed to students)
- Thursday 5th December - Goodnight Mister Tom - Production Night 1
- Friday 6th December - Goodnight Mister Tom - Production Night 2
- Monday 9th December to Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December - Year 11 Practice Examinations
- Friday 20th December - School Closes to students at 12.30pm (buses are arranged for this time)

The staff at Tarleton Academy are very much looking forward to the weeks running up to the Christmas holidays and we thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mr M Cunniffe  
Head of School

Mrs L A Gwinnett  
Executive Head

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