

22 August 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that you have managed to enjoy the summer break – it is hard to believe that the new school year is almost upon us. This letter aims to provide you with important need to know information for the start of 2024-25 academic year.

I am delighted to share some wonderful news with you as we celebrate a significant milestone in our school's journey. This year, more students than ever have achieved the grades to secure their preferred post 16 college and apprenticeship places. These outcomes reflect the dedication, hard work, and resilience of our students, as well as the support of our staff and parents.

Looking ahead, we remain committed to continuing this improvement. We will build on this success, and our focus will remain on providing the best possible educational experience for the young people of Birkenhead.

Start of Term – Wednesday 4th September

As per my letter in July, I have once again enclosed an important Information sheet which gives you the full details for the start of term. I have also included a brief outline below.

- **Year 7 Induction** – arrival at **8:30am** for Welcome Assembly, students will be dismissed at **12:45pm**.
- **Year 8 Induction** – arrival at **9:00am** for Welcomer Assembly, students will be dismissed at **12:15pm**.
- **Year 9 Induction** – arrival for **9:15am** for Welcome Assembly, students will be dismissed at **12:30pm**.
- **Year 10 Induction** – arrival for **12:00pm** for Welcome Assembly, students will be dismissed at **3:05pm**
- **Year 11 Inducting** – arrival for **11:45am** for Welcome Assembly, students will be dismissed at **3:05pm**

Mobile phone free school

As you are already aware, we have made the decision to make our school a phone-free space starting in September. This exciting initiative is aimed at supporting our students' well-being and enhancing their learning experience. In September students will be issued with their 'Yondr' pouch and there will be a detailed induction timetable in place to support our students. The system we are introducing will ensure students can continue to have their phones for use on the way to and from school.

The Birkenhead Park School Learning Habits provide a framework to ensure our core values— Positivity, Ambition, Resilience, and Thoughtfulness—are embedded within our daily practice. Every student is expected to uphold these values. We have made significant progress in instilling these habits in our students, but to support you and them over the summer break and to ensure a positive start to the new school year, I have included a reminder of the school's expectations below.

Learning Habit – Perfect Uniform

Full school uniform is expected to be worn by all students every day.

- A black blazer with a red trim and the school badge
- A white shirt/blouse
- School clip-on tie; no other type is permitted
- Black school trousers or black skirt - girls' trousers must be tailored
- **Plain black shoes**
- A school jumper or black cardigan may be worn provided they are fine knit.
- Plain black or white socks, black tights
- School lanyard and timetable

You will note that I have highlighted **plain black shoes**, to avoid you spending a significant amount of money on inappropriate shoes/trainers, I have also enclosed a leaflet on what is and isn't acceptable.

For reference, the following are **NOT acceptable**:

- Bodycon skirt
- Trainers
- Walking/softshell trousers
- Tracksuit bottoms
- False nails (including coloured or French polish)
- Painted nails/ Shellac/ gel – only clear or natural nail polish is permitted
- False eyelashes
- Fake tan or spray tan that does not look natural
- Facial piercings
- Extreme hair colours (only natural looking colours are permitted)
- Extreme hair styles
- Jewellery – (including rings, bracelets, bangles)

Learning Habit – Equipment

Students are required to have the following items:

- Pencil case, Black or blue pen, Red pen, Pencil, Ruler, Rubber, Highlighter

Finally, as we look forward to the next academic year, we remain committed to our mission of providing the highest quality education and creating an environment where every child can succeed. Our efforts are making a real difference in the lives of the families of Birkenhead, and together, we will continue to build on this success.

We are looking forward to welcoming our students back to school in September.

Best wishes

Peter Mee
Head of School