

3 January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Start of Spring Term arrangements – Monday 8th January 2024

The new spring term starts at 8:35 a.m. **on Monday, January 8, 2024**, and we are looking forward to welcoming students back to school after what we hope was a wonderful Christmas break! The new year provides an excellent opportunity to establish strong habits and make firm commitments. Let's seize the opportunity in 2024 to achieve excellence in everything we do.

As you are already aware, the Birkenhead Park School Learning Habits provide a framework to ensure our core values (Positivity, Ambition, Resilience, Thoughtful) are embedded within our daily practice. Every student is expected to uphold these values.

Mobile Phones

I would like to remind everyone of our school's no mobile phone policy. Given the likelihood of some children receiving new phones during the Christmas holidays, your support for reinforcing this policy is crucial. The strategy plays a vital role in ensuring the safety of our students and maximising learning time. Your ongoing support and cooperation are greatly appreciated.

Learning Habit: Perfect Uniform

I understand that the holiday season may have provided some students with the opportunity to explore their personal appearance choices. While this is appropriate, it is essential that they return on Monday to meet our uniform and appearance policy. Your cooperation in reinforcing this message is greatly appreciated.

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 and black tights
- School lanyard and timetable

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, or 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)

Learning Habit – Equipment

Students are required to have the following items:

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

Learning Habit - Punctuality and Attendance

There is a clear link between attendance and student outcomes at GCSE. The school's expectation is that students attend 100% of the time. There is no reason for children who attend Birkenhead Park School to attend less than their peers at other schools across the country. Your child will compete against these other students to gain the best GCSEs possible, and the surest way to undermine your own child's success is to allow them to take time off.

The new year is the perfect opportunity to work with us to break any old habits and establish positive routines to support 100% attendance. May I also remind you that we have a **free breakfast club starting 8 a.m.** and **tutor time starts at 8.35 a.m.** All students are expected to be on site by this time.

Key Stage 3 Assessments week commencing 8 January and 15 January

You will have received details from Miss Clarke, our assistant headteacher, regarding the arrangements for the Key Stage 3 assessments, which are starting this week. Revision materials have been uploaded to Class Charts, and I hope you have encouraged your child to set aside some time over the holidays to prepare for these assessments. All subjects will also have a revision lesson before the students complete any assessments.

Family Fun night – Starting on Tuesday 9 January

As you are aware, we will be opening our doors for families starting on Tuesday, **January 9th, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.** Our aim is to bring our school community together and will include a range of activities, including high-intensity interval training (HIIT) classes, trampolining, exercise to music, table tennis, climbing, and supervised activities for under 5's, all free of charge. We want to ensure everyone can participate in the evening.

We look forward to seeing you in the new year for a fun-packed night. Please contact our school games organiser, Mrs. Carys Barnes, for further details and to book your place.

cba@birkenheadparkschool.com



Parents' Evening Year 7 - 10

As shared in my previous letters, please find the dates for the Year 7–10 Parents' Evenings. For each year group, detailed arrangements will be sent to you. The timing of each event will be 4:00 p.m.– 6:30 p.m.

Year	Date
10	Thursday 11 January
9	Thursday 25 January
8	Thursday 8 February
7	Thursday 29 February

Wishing you a Happy New Year.

Best wishes,

Peter Mee

Head of School