



16 July 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of another academic year, I would like to extend my thanks to each and every one of you for your support and commitment to our school community. This has been a hugely successful year, marked by numerous achievements and significant progress in our ongoing drive to raise standards.

I am delighted to share that our Ofsted report acknowledged the rapid improvement journey our school has undertaken. This recognition of the hard work and dedication of our staff, the positivity and resilience of our students, and the invaluable support from our parents. Our school is now a place where every child thrives academically, emotionally, and socially.

One of the key areas of success this year has been the increase in our school's attendance. Thanks to the efforts of our dedicated staff, the support of our parents, and the commitment of our students, we have seen a significant improvement in attendance across the school. Strong attendance is crucial to improving the life chances of our students, and this achievement is something we can all be very proud of.

Another key area of success this year has also been the increase in opportunities for students to participate in extracurricular activities. These activities have not only enhanced the physical well-being of our students but have also contributed positively to their social and academic development.

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. Further details can also be found on the school's website.



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- Homework

It is expected that all student's complete homework on time. Failure to do so will have a sanction. Working at home is a vital learning habit to develop as it creates academic resilience and leads to academic success.

Year 7 – 11 Awards Afternoons

It has been a great couple of weeks celebrating the achievements of our students in Year 7 – 11 at the awards afternoon events. Students received prizes for their hard work, attendance and upholding our school values in everything they do. Well done to everyone who received an award.

End of term arrangements – Friday 19th July

I am pleased to share that we have an action-packed fun day arranged for Friday 19th June. Students have opted to participate in a variety of activities, including BPS Bonkers Bingo, Make up techniques, Acro Gymnastics, Creepy Crawlies and Tropical Animals, and many more! Due to the nature of some of the activities we have decided that this will be a non-uniform day. Students should arrive to school in their PE kit or normal clothes. Furthermore, school will also finish on this day at 12:30p.m. There will be no school bus at this time, so parents and carers will be expected to make alternative arrangements if their child normally travels on this service.

Start of Term – Wednesday 4th September

I have enclosed an Important Information Sheet that gives you the full details for the start of term in September.

It is with mixed emotions that I write to inform you that Mrs Chrissie Craven, after an incredible 41 years of dedicated service to the Birkenhead community, has decided to retire. Chrissie's commitment, passion, and care have touched the lives of countless students and staff members. While we will miss her, we wish Chrissie all the best as she embarks on this new chapter of her life.

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 hope that you and your family have an enjoyable summer break.

With Best Wishes.

Peter Mee
Head of School