

13 July 2023

To the Parents of Year 9 students in September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Firstly, can I take the opportunity to thank you for your support during what has been a hugely successful school year. Our drive to raise standards has continued and our school community has responded extremely positively to these higher expectations. Our success this year now leaves us well placed to continue on our journey of transformation and I am confident that we will improve the school and enrich the school experience for every student.

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.

Our Learning Habits are:

- Perfect Uniform
- Positive Behaviour
- Punctuality and Attendance
- Homework
- Equipment

I have written home on a number of occasions during this school year to explain how you can support your child in developing these positive learning habits. To further support your child over the summer break and to allow a positive start to the new school year, I have listed 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

It is important that students are fully equipped for all lessons as this maximises learning time for students, to support our students we will re-issue equipment at the start of the new school year.

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 school year is the perfect opportunity to work with us to break any old habits and establish positive routines to support 100% attendance.

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.

Class of 2023 Prom

Year 11 students had their farewell prom last week and it was a night that will live long in the memory. Our students looked fantastic in their very best outfits and they created a really special atmosphere where lifelong memories were made. The Leasowe Castle Hotel staff also mentioned how polite and respectful our students were and that we were the best behaved school during their prom season. Our students continue to build a really positive reputation for themselves and I couldn't be more proud of them.

Access to Toilets

In order to maximise learning time, students will be able to access toilets before school, during break and lunchtime. However, only students with a valid medical pass will be permitted to use the toilet during school transitions and lesson time. Please contact your child's leader if you need to update us in this regard.

End of term arrangements – Thursday 20th July

I am pleased to share that we have an action packed fun day arranged for Thursday, 20th July. Students have opted to participate in a variety of activities, including BPS Bonkers Bingo, Make up techniques, Acro Gymnastics, Creepy Crawlies and Tropical Animals, any 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.

Start of Term – Wednesday 6th September

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

Finally, it's been a busy end of term – I am very appreciative of our staff here at BPS who have worked tirelessly to enable all these wonderful events to happen. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you once again for working with us to continue the high standards that we are now proud to associate with our school.

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

With Best Wishes.



Peter Mee
Head of School

Year 9



The
Birkenhead Park
School

Important information for the start of term



Year 9 Induction:

Wednesday 6th September 2023

Students must arrive before 9:15am. School will finish on this day at 12:30pm.



First day of term:

Thursday 7th September 2023, 8:35am

School starts with Tutor time at 8:35am and school ends at 3:05pm

Free Breakfast Club from 8:00am every day



Autumn term dates:

School open: **Wednesday 6th September - Friday 20th October 2023**

Inset Day: **Friday 20th October 2023**

Half term holiday: **Monday 23rd October - Friday 27th October 2023**

School open: **Monday 30th October - Friday 22nd December 2023**



Year/Pastoral Leader contact details:

Year 9-11 Pastoral Leader: Mrs Gidman

gid@birkenheadparkschool.com

Year 9 Year Leader: Miss Burns

bur@birkenheadparkschool.com

LEARNING HABITS:



Uniform:

Perfect uniform: Full school uniform, including black school shoes, is expected to be worn by all students every day.

Full details: www.birkenheadparkschool.com/students/uniform



Behaviour:

Positive behaviour: We expect students to meet the school's relentless routines which are based on the school's values. This supports a safe and disciplined environment.



Punctuality & attendance:

The school expectation is that students attend and are punctual 100% of the time.



Homework:

Students are expected to complete all homework assigned to them each night.



Equipment:

Students are expected to arrive every day with the correct equipment to support their learning.