

2 July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

As we move towards the end of term I have provided below some useful information and updates regarding arrangements over the next couple of weeks.

### Training days

Firstly, a reminder that Monday 5 July is a planned teacher training day so no students are required to attend school on this day. The term dates and training days for the next academic year are listed below and available on the school website.

#### Autumn Term 2021

Term Starts: Monday 6 September 2021 – Thursday 21 October 2021

**Half Term:** Monday 25 October 2021 to Friday 29 October 2021

Term Starts: Monday 1 November 2021 - Friday 17 December 2021

#### Spring Term 2022

Term Starts: Wednesday 5 January 2022 – Thursday 17 February 2022

**Half Term:** Monday 21 February 2022 to Friday 25 February 2022

Term Starts: Monday 28 February 2022 – Thursday 7 April 2022

#### Summer Term 2022

Term Starts: Monday 25 April 2022 – Friday 27 May 2022

**Half Term:** Monday 30 May 2022 to Friday 3 June 2022

Term Starts: Monday 6 June 2022 - Friday 22 July 2022

#### Training days

Thursday 2 September

Friday 3 September

Friday 22 October

Monday 29 November

Tuesday 4 January 2022

Friday 18 February 2022

Friday 8 April 2022

Friday 1 July 2022

### School Website

The website has been undergoing some development and will be relaunched on Friday 9 July. It may look a little different but should be easier to navigate going forward and provide you with a whole range of information about the school.

### Free School Meals

If your circumstances have changed recently, you may be entitled to free school meals for your children. You can check this by completing the form at this link <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/birmingham/>. Even if your child brings a packed lunch and you do not think they will eat school dinners, being eligible will still give them a daily amount of £2.37 to spend in the school canteen which can normally be used to purchase food and/or drinks during the school midmorning break or lunch time. In addition, the school are given additional funds for every student entitled to free school meals and this can be used to subsidise their school visits or other curriculum resources to support with their learning. I would strongly recommend that you check if you are eligible.

In addition, the local authority continue to make provision for free school meal students during school holidays. This comes in the form of a £60 voucher code which can be spent in many supermarkets giving you flexibility over where to shop. Voucher codes will be emailed to those eligible in the last week of term.

### Magic Breakfast & additional support

We have continued to provide free breakfast for all our students throughout the year. Unfortunately, the

funding for this will end this summer. We are hoping to find additional sources of funding so that we can continue with this and if any parents are aware of any companies that could support with this, we would appreciate the contact details.

We remain able to make referrals to food banks in several areas including Erdington and Sutton Coldfield. We have been able to successfully support a large number of families during the pandemic. If you would like some additional support please do contact the relevant Head of Year so we can put something in place for you ahead of the summer break. They will try to ensure that you receive the support that you need through the school holidays. This support is also available for some families even where parents or carers are working. Please do let us know so that we can give you the correct advice.

### **Holiday support**

We will continue to upload resources to the school website regarding support agencies that will be available to access during the school holidays. This will include sign posting to a range of resources and agencies for wellbeing support. This has been an unusual year and many of our students and their families have had superb support from these agencies over the last 15 months.

Unfortunately, we are unable to host activities on site this summer. We have a large building programme starting which includes replacing several roofs around school and upgrading other areas of the school. This means that there can be no access for the vast majority of the holidays. There is a wide range of holiday provision available throughout the city and we will provide further details as it comes through to us and signpost on the school website.

### **Uniform**

Thank you for your support with ensuring that our students are attending school in their full and correct uniform. Just a reminder that students must bring a blazer to school every day including the days that they have PE. The only exception is if they have a school PE fleece in which case they can choose to wear their fleece instead of their blazer. Tracksuit tops, hoodies, sweatshirts, fur style coats, denim jackets and other fashion jackets are not permitted in school and students will be asked to remove them if they are wearing them, both in the school building and on the playground.

Please note that the uniform rules allow for a small stud in each ear and a ring and watch. Students should not be wearing bracelets or chains and nose studs are not allowed. All jewelry must be removed during PE lessons. Some students are wearing very expensive jewelry to school. This is a concern in case it is lost, and it should be left safely at home.

There is a recent fashion for very long and sharp acrylic nails. These nails are not allowed as they present as a risk to other students and make it impossible for students to engage appropriately with practical lessons such as PE, product design and food technology. Please ensure that when your child returns to school in September, they do not have acrylic nails as we will be actively enforcing this school rule for the benefit of all students.

Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust can support with purchasing school uniform if you live within particular postcodes. The information for this can be found at <https://johnwillmottschool.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/SCCT-Application-Form.pdf> along with the application form. They are continuing to accept applications until Thursday 29 July 2021, please do apply for support if you meet the eligibility criteria.

Arrangements regarding the last week of term will be shared in detail with students, parents and carers next week.

Yours sincerely

**Mrs T Peters**  
**Headteacher**