

4 April 2019

Ref: EAS/04

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Important information for the Summer term 2019

Thank you for your ongoing support in our drive to ensure that The Cumberland School offers the best opportunities and the highest expectations for your children. It has been a busy and successful term and I hope that you will take a few moments to read about the successes of so many of our students in this term's newsletter which is enclosed and is on the website. There are so many wonderful stories that show our students determination and ambition, with these qualities leading to amazing opportunities and success.

Improving punctuality

As part of your role in supporting us to ensure your children achieve their best, there are a number of important developments you need to be aware of before students return after the Easter break. Our recent focus on punctuality has brought swift and significant improvements. Since introducing our strict 8.30am cut off, along with staff early morning visits to students homes who are persistently late and the introduction of a 1 hour detention the same day students are late, the number of students who are late for school has dropped significantly. Thank you for your support with this initiative, we know that you understand that punctuality is vital if students are to be successful in school and in life.

Outstanding behaviour

The next area of focus is ensuring that behaviour in classrooms and corridors is outstanding. I know that this is something that all of our parents will support us with. The new system will ensure that the classroom environment is not disturbed by disruptive or defiant behaviour so that all students can learn effectively. Immediately after Easter, students will be expected to respond to one staff reminder and one warning. Failure to do this will result in students being removed from lessons and their learning will take place separately from their peers. Students have been informed of this so that they understand exactly what is expected of them. We are confident that this will ensure that all lessons are as productive and focused as possible. They will also be taught a new routine which will allow them to show staff that they are focused and respectful, both in lessons and outside of them.



Healthy School



Pursuing Excellence in Education



T: 020 7474 0231 | F: 020 7511 2510

E: contact@cumberland.org.uk

www.cumberland.org.uk

Headteacher: Ms G Dineen
Oban Close, London, E13 8SJ

Respect for our community

Students are ambassadors for The Cumberland School and their behaviour when in the community in their uniform reflects on the school. Our reputation is important to us and to students, as they carry it with them to college, therefore we will act to protect it. Small numbers of students are hanging around on the streets after school. We have had numerous complaints from residents. All students know that they must not be in the local area in school uniform 30 minutes after their school finish time. If students are seen after 30 minutes, or behave inappropriately outside of school whilst in school uniform, they will be sanctioned in line with our behaviour policy.

Dynamic Progress Reporting

A reminder to all of the parents that they have 24/7 access to their child's school progress in all subjects through the DPR. You can access DPR via the website and can also add a shortcut to your mobile homescreen. DPR gives you instant access to all teacher contacts for your child and all homework set. Your child will also find plenty of extra resources on the DPR to support them in any subject they are finding difficult and stretch them in their areas of strength.

Attendance

Please could I take this opportunity to remind you that all appointments such as doctor, dentist or optician appointments, should be made out of school time. This will ensure your child's learning and progress is not adversely affected. We do understand that occasionally it is unavoidable that hospital appointments are arranged during school hours. Please provide your child with a note and a copy of the medical letter to show to the Attendance Officer in the Front Office in advance of the appointment or the absence may be unauthorised.

Traffic on Oban Close

The traffic when students are dropped off and picked up at school is causing a significant safety risk to our students and unacceptable levels of inconvenience to our neighbours who live in Oban Close. For this reason, parents are **not permitted** to drive down Oban Close and park up to drop off or wait to collect students. Only parents who drop off/collect a child due to disability can drive in to school to reception. The school has contacted the council and the police about this issue, as the dangers posed to our students, along with the inconvenience to the resident on Oban Close, are not acceptable.

Squid Pay

If you have not already signed up to sQuid, our online payment system for school meals, trips and school equipment (calculator etc), you need to do so as a matter of urgency. If you need support please indicate your interest on the contact form on our website (under 'contact us') or on the return form attached to this letter so that we can send a registration letter and instructions to you.

Home contact

We all know that good communication between home and school is vital if we are to support students effectively - a reminder that we now use email and text to ensure that parents and carers receive all important communication as soon as possible. In order to do this we need to ensure that we have the correct email and mobile phone number for you. Please ensure the school reception has the correct information for you by emailing to contact@cumberland.org.uk.

Year 11

Our year 11 students will need to be revising hard over the Easter break. We are running a number of revision sessions in the holidays which they need to be attending. They are only weeks away from their GCSEs and I know parents will join us in wishing them the very best of luck.

Uniform

Personal presentation is important in the world of work and we want to make sure that every Cumberland student develops a sense of pride in how they look. We expect all students to be in correct uniform. Students who choose to disobey the uniform expectations will be sanctioned for deliberate defiance of school rules. If students persistently do not wear uniform items they will work separately from other students for the day.

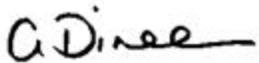
- Blazer: navy blue TCS blazer with logo, must be worn at all times in the building
- Shirt: plain white shirt with collar, must be tucked in
- Tie: TCS tie, worn to the waist. Two stripes must be visible
- Jumper (optional): TCS V-Neck with logo
- Trousers: plain navy blue, tailored, regular fit (no denim, coloured pocket zips)
- Skirt: plain navy blue, knee-length, pleated with logo
- Socks or tights: plain black, white, navy, grey
- Shoes: plain black leather school shoes, providing adequate protection and support (no casuals, fabric, canvas, trainers, sandals, pumps, 'work type' shoes e.g. Dr Martens boots, high heels, boots, coloured laces, coloured stitching)
- **Coat: plain navy blue or black**, to be removed in class with the hood down in the building (no leather, suede, denim, hoody, sweatshirt, sports top, body warmer or gillet)
- Hijab, abaya: Plain navy blue. Students that choose to wear the abaya must also wear a shirt, tie and blazer
- No bandana style head scarves are to be worn

A reminder to our Year 7 parents that Year 7 Parents' Evening will take place on 14 May 2019 from 4.00pm to 7.00pm.

Finally the last day of the Spring term is Friday 5 April and students will be dismissed from school at 12.15pm. The first day of the new term for all students is Tuesday 23 April. Students are expected to be in school no later than 8.30am. As part of our high expectations, please ensure students are on time and in full school uniform. Remember all students are entitled to a free hot breakfast every morning at TCS, as long as you are in the dining hall by 8.20am.

Finally can I take this opportunity to wish you and your families a wonderful break.

Yours sincerely,



Gillian Dineen
Headteacher