



Manorfield Road,
Driffield,
East Yorkshire
YO25 5HR

18 December 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Head's Round Up

Uniform

The new uniform is currently on display in the ACE reception. The models will also be on display in our entrances for the upcoming evening events across the school.

Following consultation with the Student Union and a local provider, we are pleased to confirm that the proposed uniform will consist of:

- Plain black trousers and/or knee-length skirt
- White long sleeved and/or short sleeved shirt
- Blue jumper for Key Stage three and black jumper for Key Stage four
- Tie in house colours
- Optional blazer, offering a tailored fit for both girls and boys

The new uniform will be competitive in price with the current uniform, as well as the proposed blazer being machine washable and eco-friendly. The new tie in house colours will be issued as a complimentary item to welcome students back in September 2018.

Feedback from both students and parents has been extremely positive and we are looking forward to the changes for September 2018.

I wish to reassure parents that girls are still able to wear black trousers, these must meet the uniform policy and will not require the Driffield school logo on them. Boots can be worn in winter underneath trousers only and must not be worn with a skirt, as per the current policy.

Please take the time to view the proposed uniform on the school website. The deadline for consultation has been extended to **Thursday 21 December 2017**.

We thank the student union panel for their enthusiasm and ideas into making the long awaited changes to revamp the uniform.

School Attendance Update

Good school attendance is 96% or above and this is our overall school attendance target for 2017-18. When attendance drops below 95% evidence demonstrates this starts to impact on progress in school.

If a child's attendance drops below 90%, it means that the child has missed the equivalent of;

- ½ day per week
- 4 weeks per year
- 1 whole year in the child's time in school from Year 7 to Year 11

Research indicates that a child with attendance below 90% may achieve on average, a grade lower in each GCSE subject.

Attendance below 90% is termed Persistent Absence (PA) and the school will offer help and guidance to support the student and the family to improve their attendance to school.

Attendance over one school year	Days absent	Weeks Absent	Number of lessons missed
95%	9	2	50
90%	19	4	100
85%	29	6	150
80%	38	8	200
75%	48	10	250
70%	57	11.5	290
65%	67	13.5	340

Year 11 students are all aware that good attendance, punctuality and behaviour is required to receive an invitation to the end of Year 11 Prom in July.

Sixth Form Information Evening

It was a great pleasure to see so many students and parents at the Sixth Form open evening. Over the coming weeks, the Year 11 students will be having the first of their interviews to help plan their pathway for after Year 11. Over the course of the year, there will be three further opportunities to meet for a one to one interview with Mr Andrews to ensure that the academic pathways chosen by students enable them to access their future careers. Following on from the open evening, there will be an additional Sixth Form Information Evening in West hall on **Wednesday 10th January 2018**, starting at **6.00pm**. This is an opportunity to gain more detailed information about the Sixth Form, study pathways, the courses offered, finance, student support and specialist programmes designed to support our learners. The open evening places an emphasis on meeting with subject staff to learn about the subject content, but will also offer the chance to understand the broader experience offered by our excellent Sixth Form. We look forward to seeing you there.

Christmas

Finally I wish to thank the students and staff for their efforts this half term, it has been a busy time with interventions, evening events and much more so I hope you and your families have a wonderful break over the Christmas holidays.

Start of term

I look forward to welcoming all students back into school on **Tuesday 9 January 2018** at the normal time of **8.40am**.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

I will write to you again in upon our return in January with further updates from around the school.

Yours faithfully



D Pickering
Head of School