

20 July 2023

Dear Parent or Carer,

## RE: Key information for the start of term

As the school year draws to an end, plans and preparations for the new school year are well underway and I am writing to provide you with some key information for September 2023.

### First Day Arrangements

Year 7 and Year 12 students will return to school on **Tuesday 5 September** with all year groups attending from **Wednesday 6 September**. Our new Year 7 cohort have received a separate letter from Mr Fisher outlining the arrangements for their first day. All year groups will be asked to go to their tutor rooms for period 1 on Wednesday 6 September for extended tutor time. During this time, tutors will welcome students back to school, provide them with their timetables for the new academic year and ensure they fully understand our expectations, routines and procedures. In addition, students will also learn of the content planned for the year relating to personal development themes, with specific focus next year on the importance of character. Lessons will commence as normal from period 2.

### Pastoral Arrangements

In September, students in Years 8-10 will remain with their existing Head of Year and Miss White will become the Head of Year for Year 7.

We are pleased to share that Mrs Frazer will move into a new role within the school in September and will lead on behaviour support interventions, helping young people make more positive choices. This means that we are now in the process of appointing a new Head of Year 11. We will provide more information as soon as possible.

Further information about key areas of pastoral work and student updates will be shared with you through our half termly Cornerstones publication throughout the next academic year. This will be emailed to you but if you require a hard copy, please contact the school and we will facilitate this.

Full details of our pastoral team (and their contact details) can be found in the student planner and on our website.

## **Behaviour for Learning Policy**

Following very positive feedback from students, parents and staff on our Behaviour for Learning policy, there will be no significant changes to the policy for the next academic year. Further information on the policy can be found [here](#).

Important areas to note are as follows:

- Our school expectations have been designed to link in with our four cornerstones (care, respect, responsibility and perseverance) to help students better understand why the expectations are important and necessary.
- These expectations are reinforced through our delivery of a behaviour curriculum that is built around our four cornerstones. Through this curriculum, students will receive regular opportunities to learn about, and be reminded of, key routines that enable the smooth running of the school.
- The policy emphasises the rewarding of students who consistently make good choices and meet the school expectations
- Sanctions for disruptive behaviour are recorded separately to other more organisational issues ensuring that students will only ever be removed from a classroom for persistent disruption.

The student planner remains key to our Behaviour for Learning policy and an effective communication tool between home and school. The planner includes a specific area each week which allows parents, carers or school staff to make notes or add comments. This may be useful if you need to get a note to a specific member of staff.

## **Uniform and Equipment**

Preparing for your child's return to school in September is a good time to check your child's uniform to ensure they start the new academic year with the correct uniform and equipment. All students are expected to return to school in full school uniform, including wearing a tie. If you are unsure of the uniform requirements, you can find the full policy [here](#).

Please do check the uniform policy before making any purchases as we have made adjustments to the policy to ensure it is affordable for all. We have reduced the number of items that are required and have liaised with Drury Sports to offer an embroidery service if you would prefer to purchase items from other retailers.

Please be aware that items of uniform offered by some high street retailers may not meet the requirements for our dress code, even if they are labelled as 'school wear'. If you are in any doubt about the suitability of any item (especially trousers or shoes) please check with your child's Head of Year.

Driffield School Association are also working closely with the school to offer opportunities through the school year to purchase pre-owned uniform at reasonable prices. With this in mind, if you have any items of uniform that you would like to donate, it will be gratefully received through ACE reception.

Please be aware that piercings, other than one pair of earrings, are not permitted as part of the uniform policy. Therefore, if your child is planning to have any piercings done over the summer holidays it must be towards the start of the holiday to enable them to be able to remove them for school. All piercings must be removed before

students arrive at school as per the policy. The same applies to false nails, painted nails and false eyelashes.

**Thank you**

The staff team are very proud of our students and how hard they have worked during this academic year; we are looking forward to seeing our Year 11 and Year 13 students on results days and celebrating their results with them. I have thoroughly enjoyed my first year of Headship at Driffield and I would like to thank all of our parents and carers for their continued support of the school. I look forward to welcoming students back in September, along with our new Year 7 cohort as they begin their exciting journey at Driffield School.

If you have any particular concerns about your child's return to school in September, please either contact your child's Head of Year or, during the school holidays, contact the school via the following email: [office@driffieldschool.org.uk](mailto:office@driffieldschool.org.uk). Our school reception will be open between 9 am and 2 pm during the summer holidays.

I wish you and your families a lovely summer.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'V. Loftus', written in a light grey or blue ink.

Mrs Vicky Loftus  
Headteacher