

Bassingbourn Village College

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Limited by guarantee registered in

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that you are looking forward to an enjoyable Easter weekend. We are looking forward to welcoming all students back on Tuesday (22nd April). As we approach the start of the Summer term, I thought it would be helpful to provide an update and reminder on the changes that we are making. We are putting these things in place as we believe they are right for our college, with a constant eye on our vision of being an exceptional school, at the heart of our community.

Below are a few reminders about how parents and carers can help their child to make a positive start to the new term and offer our support if there are any families that may require this. We understand that our students are becoming young adults and can take more responsibility for getting themselves ready in the morning but even teenagers still need their parents to get them into good lifelong habits and ensure they are ready for school each morning.

- Uniform ready the night before
- Pencil case of equipment in bags
- PE kit if required
- Homework completed and ready to hand in

Equipment

It is important that all students return ready to learn with all their equipment for learning. We have high expectations of our students', and they need the correct equipment in lessons to be successful.

Arriving on time for the start of the school day – 8.55am

Each morning students have their mentor session or an assembly. Being on time each day is extremely important. When students arrive late, they miss important information provided by their mentor, activities and may also miss assembly. In all assemblies, there are key learning opportunities alongside house celebrations and awards. Students should arrive no later than 8.50am, enabling them to be in their mentor room by 8.55am.

Uniform

Please ensure that your child returns for the new term in the correct uniform. Students are required to bring their blazer each day until the weather turns very warm; we will provide a warm weather update later in the term.

We will be reviewing the college uniform expectations during the summer term. Please can we ask that all parents and carers complete the survey that was shared before we broke up for Easter.

I would like to draw your attention to the following point from our <u>uniform policy</u> which is shared with parents regularly.

- Students with pierced ears can wear one pair of plain studs only. These must be removed during PF lessons.
- Any form of body piercing is not permitted.
- Students can wear a wristwatch.

Please do not allow your child to have any piercings carried out during the school term/Easter break as they are not permitted to wear these to the college.

Mobile phones

Please can we politely remind parents and carers that students are not allowed their mobile phones out at any time whilst in the college building and mobile phones must be in their bags during school time, 8.55am – 3.20pm. Please can parents and carers not contact their child during the day using their mobile; this encourages the students to look at their phones and results in their phones being confiscated. Receiving messages and calls from parents is not a valid reason for them to use their phones and leaves the college staff dealing with an avoidable difficult situation.

Support from the college

As always, we would like to stress that the college will always support any student, parent or carer if there are any challenges in purchasing any items of uniform or equipment. Although we have high expectations for our students, we are also a very supportive and caring school. Please do get in touch if you need support in any way.

No Cash College

Students must not bring any cash to school, unless there is a specific event, such as a bake sale. Although it is very upsetting when student lose or misplace money, we cannot always investigate when money is lost or potentially stolen.

Thank you for your ongoing support with these areas. This next half-term is a short and extremely busy one with public exams quickly in full swing. Please do reach out to your child's mentor or achievement leader if there is any support or information, we can provide to ensure this is a successful term for all.

Yours Sincerely,

Mr Stoneham