



HEDINGHAM SCHOOL
AND SIXTH FORM
ACHIEVEMENT & EXCELLENCE

15 September 2023

Official Sensitive

Dear Parent/Guardian

Firstly, we have been really pleased with the way students have conducted themselves since returning from the Summer holidays. It has been pleasing to meet our new Year 7 students who have settled superbly into Hedingham School life. Indeed, despite the heat, all of our students have had a focused start to the school year. We must ensure that standards are maintained throughout the year and one of our key priorities is to ensure that the behaviour and culture at Hedingham is the best it can be. We held a series of assemblies for students on Day 1 to provide students with a clarity about our expectations. Tutors, who will take a more proactive role this year, will continue to work with the students and yourselves to maintain high standards. A purposeful environment promoting high expectations is central for a successful school.

I have attached the key points from the assembly presentation to this letter. Please take time to read this. Also, our Behaviour Policy can be found on the school website for parents to view. Please provide any feedback by emailing Mr Nash, Assistant Headteacher, on hed.nashd@hedingham.essex.sch.uk

Uniform:

Our school uniform sets a standard which supports our expectations of work and behaviour. The vast majority of our students have maintained high standards of dress throughout the first few weeks. Thank you to all parents who have worked with us to ensure that students are wearing the correct uniform.

However, early monitoring has identified that a significant number of students are not wearing school shoes in accordance with our school policy.

Can I please emphasise that trainers, in any form, (including black, polishable trainers) are not permitted as an acceptable replacement for a formal shoe. When purchasing replacement shoes in the future, can you please support us with this so to ensure that our uniform expectations are consistently applied.

Homework:

Another priority for the school is to revisit expectations around Homework (Home Learning). We are aware that there are different views about the 'value' of Homework and recognise that there are additional pressures at home and some students struggle with the capacity to complete Homework after a long school day. Therefore, we have a Policy which has acknowledged this and offers variety and balance. Core subjects will provide more regular weekly Homework whilst other areas look at a topic or project-based approach. Students will receive various forms of feedback for completion and quality of work, but this will depend on the type of Homework set. Mrs Cook will send the Policy to all parents.

Parent Information Evenings/Events (Term 1 - 2023):

- 20 September - **Year 11** Parents' Information Evening
- 27 September - **Year 13** Parents' Information Evening
- 28 September - **Year 7** Meet the Tutor Evening

- 5 October - School Open Evening (in school for Years 5 and 6 parents – **school closed from 1.30 pm**)
- 6 October - Teacher Training Day (school closed)
- 19 October - **Year 11** Parents' Evening
- 2 November - **Year 13** Parents' Evening
- 9 November - **6th Form** Open Evening
- 23 and 24 November - Teacher Training Days (**school closed**)
- 30 November - **Year 10** Parents' Evening

We will send out further details regarding the organisation of the evenings.

I hope you have a great weekend!

Yours sincerely



Mr A Harvison
Headteacher

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