



Parent Bulletin Friday 8th September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's a great pleasure to write to you at the start of the new school year and to have welcomed your children back to school this week. It may have been a warm few days but that hasn't prevented students from focusing in lessons and working hard. I'd like to extend a particular welcome to parents of students in Years 7 and 12 who are new to the school. The purpose of my weekly bulletin is to keep you updated on key things happening in school, to make sure you have the dates and details you need.

Keeping in touch with school is really important and we want to make that as easy and clear as possible. Attached to this letter, and in the 'Parents' section of the website, is a flow chart for parents about who to contact and when dependent upon the situation. I hope that you find this helpful.

Over the next two weeks we are holding information meetings for parents of students in all years about the year ahead. In these meetings we'll cover the key things you need to know as parents so you can help your child to be successful. Meetings take place as follows:

- Thursday 14th September
 - Year 7 – 5pm
 - Year 10 – 6pm
 - Year 11 – 6pm
 - Year 13 – 7pm
- Thursday 21st September
 - Year 8 – 6pm
 - Year 9 – 6pm
 - Year 12 – 7pm

You will have seen the news coverage about unsafe concrete in some schools, which is a concern at the moment. I am pleased to confirm that does not affect Slough and Eton and I had a structural engineer visit the school on Wednesday to confirm this.

In next week's bulletin I will publish key dates for your diary. In the meantime, there are some details for you below about attendance, school photographs and medical issues.

I hope your child has enjoyed their first week back in school and that they enjoy their weekend with you.

Best wishes
Peter Collins
Headteacher



News and Information

Attendance and Punctuality – Mr Culkeen

Mr Culkeen is one of our Deputy Headteachers who oversees student attendance. He works alongside our Attendance Officer, Mrs Begol.

Student Attendance and Punctuality – September 2023

As you are aware school attendance is mandatory and the usual rules will apply, including;

- Parent's duty to ensure that their child attends school every day and on time
- School's responsibility to record attendance and follow up absences
- The availability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices in line with local authorities' codes of conduct

Our end of year target is for every student to reach a minimum of 96% attendance. This target is based on recommendations set by the Local Authority and is based on national figures. We have a duty to report all authorised and unauthorised absences to them.

Any absences to be authorised, must be supported with medical evidence where possible i.e., an appointment card, proof of medication or a letter from the medical centre. If there are five or more unauthorised absences over a twelve-week period then we will contact the Attendance Service at Slough Borough Council and they may issue you with a Warning Letter and/or Penalty Notice.

We are sure that you share our determination to continue to raise standards and to see ongoing improvements in your child(ren)'s progress. In order to achieve this, it is essential that your child attends school every day so that they can reach their full potential. Students with no absence are 1.5 times more likely to achieve 5 or more GCSEs and 2.8 times more likely to achieve 5 or more GCSEs at grade 4 or higher including English and Mathematics than students missing 15-20 per cent of lessons. 90% over 5 years at Secondary school equates to half a school year missed and the achievement at GCSE will be, on average, one grade lower.

All students must be in school by 8.25am ready to start at 8.30am. Poor punctuality will not be acceptable as we want all students to have a positive start to the day by being on time and ready to start their lessons – *'Every Minute Matters'*. Students arriving after 8.30am without a valid reason will be sanctioned and parents will be notified accordingly. We trust you will support your child by adhering to the commitment you made when your child joined Slough and Eton.

If you wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me or Mrs Begol, our Attendance Officer.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Martin Culkeen
Deputy Headteacher

Parent Governor Vacancies.

We currently have a Parent Governor Vacancy on our Local Governing Body. If you are a parent/carer of a child at Slough and Eton C of E Business and Enterprise College and would like to find out more about becoming a governor at our school, we would love to hear from you. This is a great opportunity for you to become more involved in the success of your child's school. Governors play an important role in the strategic development of the school and it is important that the 'parent voice' can make a contribution to this.

The closing date for nominations is the end of the day on **Friday 29th September 2023**. If you would like further details please email head.pa@slougheton.com

School Photographs – Mrs Goodyear

On Tuesday 12th September all students (except Year 13) will have their school photographs taken by Surrey School Photography. Year 13 will have their photographs taken on Friday 15th September, as will anybody who was absent on Tuesday. Your child will be given an A5 sheet with details of how to purchase the photograph, ask them for it when they return home on that day.

Medical issues and Medication – Mrs England and Mr Gardiner

Please can we ask that you notify the school of any medical issues that your son/daughter may have, including asthma and allergies. If your son/daughter must take medication during the school day this should be reported to the school and a medication form completed, we will store these items in our Medical Room. Your child must not carry any medication in school unless it is an asthma pump or EpiPen, however, we do ask that a spare of these items is given to First Aider in case of emergencies. Should you wish to discuss any issues or medication administration please email firstaid@slougheton.com or call the school line 01753 520824 and ask for Mr Gardiner.