

Our ref: KCN/HLE/Start of Year 2024-25

06 September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Start of Academic Year 2024/25

Welcome

A very warm welcome to you all as we start the new school year. I hope you have enjoyed a good summer break as families and would like to thank you for your tremendous support in getting the students ready for the new school year.

Expectations

Despite all the rain (!), we have had an excellent start to the term. The students look incredibly smart and we have seen first-class engagement and behaviour in lessons. Each year group has also received an assembly outlining our expectations of work and behaviour - the key messages have focused on working hard, behaving positively, participating in school life, the importance of attendance and being kind.

Working together

It is important that we establish strong routines with all students and to this end, we would ask for your support in ensuring that your child/children attend school, eat healthily, have a good sleep routine and exercise regularly. The government is currently reviewing the use of mobile phones in schools; at the Burgess Hill Academy, the school expectation is that mobile phones are not to be used unless permission has been requested to check a timetable. Outside of school, we would strongly advise that screen-time is monitored.

We have discussed the importance of organisation with all students - it would be helpful if you could spend 5 minutes over the weekend checking their timetable and possibly making a copy for reference.

Should you wish to discuss any matter with school during the course of the year, could I please ask that you contact the subject teacher in the first instance, if the concern is subject-related. For any other matter, please contact your Pastoral Leader. All email addresses are available on our website.

On a more practical note, could I please ask that parents refrain from dropping off students in the Queen's Crescent cul-de-sac. This is becoming very congested and the school has received a number of complaints from local residents who have been unable to leave / access their driveways - thank you for your understanding.

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School development

Over the summer holidays, a significant amount of work was completed on the school site including the decoration of three of the teaching blocks, painting of the external rendering and the replacement of windows in T Block. The repair work to the roof will be completed by the end of Term 1, at which point, T Block will also be painted.

Finally, I would like to thank the Burgess Hill Lions who have kindly donated £7000 for the purchase of an Outdoor Gym. This has now been installed and represents the first stage of our Outdoor Education plans for on-site Alternative Provision.

I look forward to working with you over the coming year and wish you a relaxing weekend,

Kind regards,



Karen Clinton
Principal

