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Year 8 Information Evening

Welcome to Neston High School

Thursday 2nd October 2025

(Presentation available via www.nestonhigh.com from Friday 3rd October)

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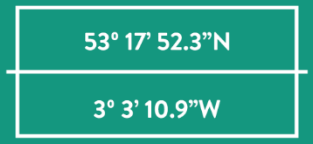

Welcome

Headteacher – Ms Cunningham

Head of Year - Miss Rogers

Assistant Headteacher – Mr Cray

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53° 17' 52.3"N

3° 3' 10.9"W

Curriculum

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School Day

Timings of the School Day		
8.20 a.m.	Monday: Whole Staff Briefing Friday: Year Team Briefing	
8. 30 a.m.	Duty Team staff at duty points Students in school	
8.40 a.m.	Tutor (a.m. registration) or Year group assembly	
9.05 -10.05 a.m.	Period 1	
10.05 - 11.05 a.m.	Period 2	
11.05 - 11.25 a.m.	Break	
11.25 -11.30 a.m.	5-minute movement	
11.30 -12.30 pm	Period 3	
12.30 pm	**Yr 7,9,11**	**Yr 8,10,6th Form**
	Lunch (12.30-1.10)	Period 4 (12.30- 1.30pm) Statutory Registration
12.30- 2.10 p.m.	Period 4 (1.10 - 2.10) Statutory Registration	Lunch (1.30 - 2.10pm)
2.10- 3.10 p.m.	Period 5	
3.10 p.m.	School ends Duty Team staff at duty points	
3.10 - 4.10 p.m.	PDEx Programme	

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53° 17' 52.3"N
3° 3' 10.9"W

Parent Portal

‘Be part of your child's learning journey’

Student Timetable
Positive Behaviour Points
Negative Behaviour Points
Update Student Details
Complete Consents
Attendance Data
Assessment Reports
Clubs After School

Arbor

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Arbor timetable

08:40-09:05	08:40-09:05	08:40-09:05	08:40-09:05	08:40-09:05
09:05-10:05	09:05-10:05	09:05-10:05	09:05-10:05	09:05-10:05
Physical education (Core): Year 7: 7R/PE1	Art: Year 7: 7R/Ad1 (2024/2025)	Mathematics: Year 7: 7R/Ma3 (2024/2025)	Spanish: Year 7: 7R/Es4 (2024/2025)	Physical education (Core): Year 7: 7R/PE1
10:05-11:05	10:05-11:05	10:05-11:05	10:05-11:05	10:05-11:05
PSHE: Year 7: 7/PSE1 (2024/2025)	Mathematics: Year 7: 7R/Ma3 (2024/2025)	English Language: Year 7: 7R/En4	Design Studies: Year 7: 7R/Ds1 (2024/2025)	Science: Year 7: 7R/Sc3 (2024/2025)
11:30-12:30	11:30-12:30	11:30-12:30	11:30-12:30	11:30-12:30
Geography: Year 7: 7R/Gg4 (2024/2025)	PRE Core: Year 7: 7R/EPR4 (2024/2025)	Food + Nutrition: Year 7: 7R/Fn1	History: Year 7: 7R/Hi4 (2024/2025)	Computer Science: Year 7: 7R/Cs3
13:10-14:10	13:10-14:10	13:10-14:10	13:10-14:10	13:10-14:10
Mathematics: Year 7: 7R/Ma3 (2024/2025)	Science: Year 7: 7R/Sc3 (2024/2025)	Geography: Year 7: 7R/Gg4 (2024/2025)	Mathematics: Year 7: 7R/Ma3 (2024/2025)	Spanish: Year 7: 7R/Es4 (2024/2025)
14:10-15:10	14:10-15:10	14:10-15:10	14:10-15:10	14:10-15:10
History: Year 7: 7R/Hi4 (2024/2025)	English Language: Year 7: 7R/En4	Spanish: Year 7: 7R/Es4 (2024/2025)	English Language: Year 7: 7R/En4	English Language: Year 7: 7R/En4

How do we organise learning?

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Teaching and Learning

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Achieving a Compelling Learning Experience

- Engages
- Challenges
- Empowers
- Connects

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TEACHING AND LEARNING PRINCIPLES

Achieving a Compelling Learning Experience

In every lesson at Neston High School, you will see:

Excellent Subject Knowledge

Deep subject knowledge, vocabulary, and clear explanation.

Pace, Planning & Purpose

Lessons are well structured, purposeful, and reflect a coherent curriculum.

Adaptive Teaching

Tailoring support and challenge so every student can progress.

Stimulating & Safe Environment

A safe, welcoming space that inspires learning.

Students Make Progress

Learners can explain what they've achieved and where they're heading.

Effective Assessment

Assessment informs teaching and feedback supports ongoing student progress.

Variety of Engaging Activities

Diverse and dynamic learning experiences.

Positive Relationships & Behaviour

Positive relationships and high expectations underpin a safe and respectful learning environment.

Cross-Curricular Skills

Building literacy, numeracy, teamwork, and independence

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Classroom Standards

- ✓ Every classroom
- ✓ Every lesson
- ✓ Every exercise book (A5 sticker)
- ✓ Everyone's responsibility

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Classroom Standards at Neston High School:

Ready – Students will have their exercise book, pen and correct equipment with them in every lesson in order to achieve. Students will complete classwork and homework to the best of their ability.

Respectful – Students will always take pride in their work and recognise that exercise books and class notes are a critical revision tool

Presentation:

Dates and titles are underlined with a ruler.

Dates are written in full with the day of the week and the month; capital letters are used accurately.

Handwriting is on the lines provided or within the squares (subject dependent).

Highlighters are used to identify where key vocabulary is used.

Worksheets are glued in/organised appropriately.

All written work should be in black pen.

Mistakes should be crossed out neatly with a single line.

Literacy Marking Code:

- ✓ Clear and focused points
- ✓✓ Well developed points
- ? Meaning is unclear
- CL Capital letters missing
- ^ Something is missing
- // New paragraph

HOMOPHONES: Words that **SOUND** the same but have **DIFFERENT** meanings and spellings

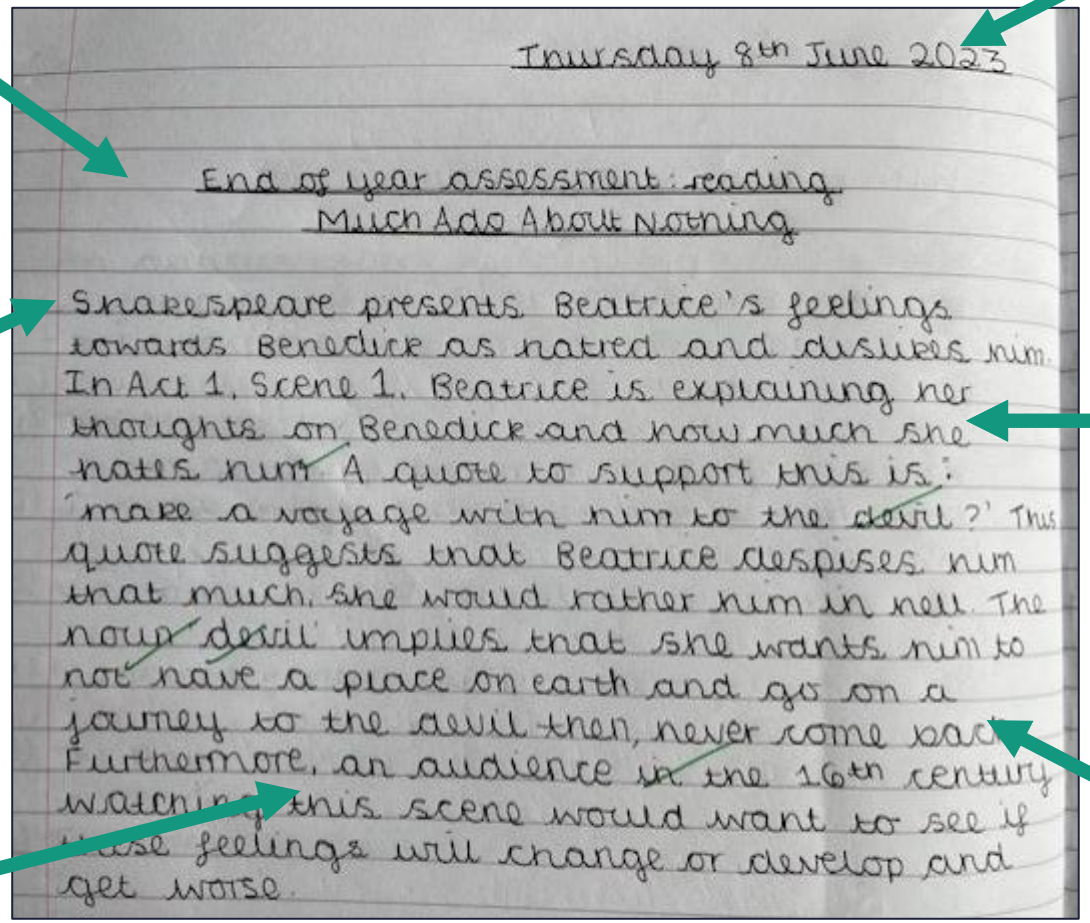
You're	You are	Were	Past tense of are
Your	It belongs to you	Then	A point of time
They're	They are	Than	A method of comparison
Their	It belongs to them	Two	The number 2
There	A place	To	Indicates motion
We're	We are	Too	Also or Excessively

- P Check Punctuation
- Sp Incorrect Spelling
- T Target for improvement
- 10↓ Numbers 1-9 should be in written form

What should it look like?

Relevant title written and underlined

Date written in full and underlined



Thursday 8th June 2023

End of year assessment: reading
Much Ado About Nothing

Shakespeare presents Beatrice's feelings towards Benedick as hatred and dislikes him. In Act 1, Scene 1, Beatrice is explaining her thoughts on Benedick and how much she hates him. A quote to support this is: 'make a voyage with him to the devil?' This quote suggests that Beatrice despises him that much, she would rather him in hell. The noun 'devil' implies that she wants him to not have a place on earth and go on a journey to the devil then, never come back. Furthermore, an audience in the 16th century watching this scene would want to see if these feelings will change or develop and get worse.

Capital letters used correctly

Handwriting is on the lines provided

Punctuation is used accurately

Written in black pen

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Marking and Feedback

- Focus on improving
- Students engaged with learning
- Praise and encourage students
- Support students in identifying strengths and weaknesses
- Students reflecting on learning and using feedback effectively to improve
- Range of strategies used such as ‘live marking’

At Neston High School, we pride ourselves in ensuring literacy is at the heart of our curriculum.

- Our school community works collaboratively to support all students to develop their reading, writing and speaking skills.
- All students engage in a range of literacy-rich activities in tutor time and lessons across the curriculum.
- We assess the literacy abilities of all students using spelling and reading tests. Interventions are put in place for students who require additional support with literacy.
- Our Library plays a central role in school life to promote a reading culture.
- We encourage all students to have a reading book in their bag and to read in school and at home.

Head of English & Literacy: Mr S. Smith

Literacy Specialist: Mrs S. Amato

How to support your children with learning

SPACE

ROUTINES

CLEAR PLAN FOR HOMEWORK AND REVISION

ORGANISATION

BOOST CONFIDENCE

ENCOURAGEMENT

HOBBIES

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Reading is the **KEY** to learning

20 IS PLENTY!

CHILDREN WHO READ FOR 20 MINUTES A DAY...

- Will improve critical thinking skills
- Will have a world of imagination and creativity opened up to them
- Will have a broad vocabularly
- Will have better general knowledge
- Will improve their communication skills
- Will learn how to develop empathy
- Will improve academic results
- Will have reduced stress levels

LIBRARY NESTON HIGH SCHOOL

LITERACY NESTON HIGH SCHOOL

Talking about learning

- What was the most interesting thing you learned today?
- Can you teach me something new you found out?
- Did you try something that was difficult? How did you handle it?
- What new word did you come across? What does it mean?
- What problem or question did your class try to answer?
- What strategy did you use to solve a hard problem?
- Can you show me how you would do that at home?
- How could you use what you learned today outside of school?

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Independent learning

- To support all students with a quiet space to work and encourage independent learning, we have a study room open every day until 4.10pm. This may be homework, making revision materials or preparing for assessments.
- There will be computers available for them to do research or access online learning platforms as they will not be able to access their phones until 4.10pm.
- Microsoft Teams is available as an application on all desktop and mobile devices. The Microsoft Teams app allows students and parents to view, manage and submit all school files.

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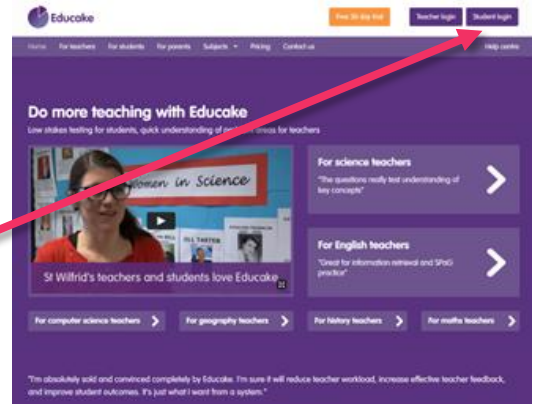
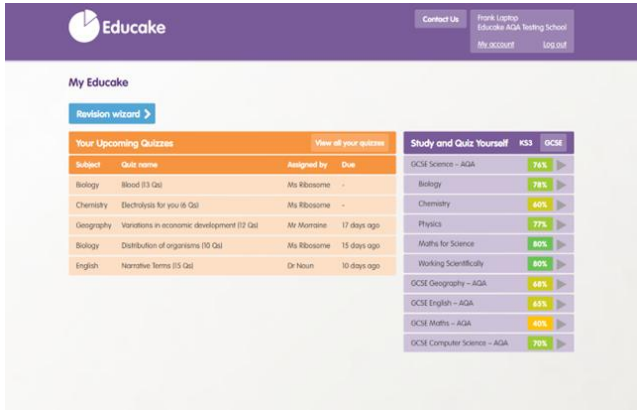
Educake – online Science Homework

Educake is a homework and revision website
Login using your school email and password
Homework will be set every 2 weeks



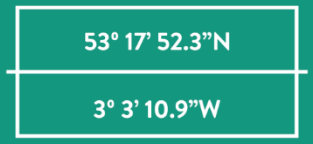
Go to www.educake.co.uk and click on the 'Student Login' button



The quizzes you have been set will be orange, click on the quiz to answer the questions

Educake will let you know what you are doing well and what you need to improve.

Please Login and complete your first quiz.



Assessment

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How will my child be initially assessed?

- ‘Baseline’ assessments are being completed in all subjects over the first half term.
- Assessing knowledge and skills
- Year 7 online ‘Cognitive Ability Tests’ (CATs): future potential demonstrated in four key areas:
    - Verbal Reasoning - Words
    - Quantitative Reasoning - Numbers
    - Non-Verbal Reasoning - Shapes and Space
    - Spatial Ability - Visual Images

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Reporting Home

We gather information from all subject teachers in the following ways:

- **Attitude to Learning**: **Grades 1 – 4** in three key Areas
  Engagement / Independent Learning / Ready To Learn

- **End of Year Assessments will take place:**
  Monday 18th May – Friday 19th June 2025

Results reported home:

- Your child's result as a percentage
- The class average result as a percentage
- The year group average result as a percentage

Engagement

Engagement (Participation in class / Completion of classwork / Attitude / Behaviour / Effort)
1 – Above Expected
•You are highly motivated and demonstrate an extremely positive attitude in lessons. •You contribute fully to learning in class by actively taking part in discussions. •You are enthusiastic and work extremely well with other students. •You take full responsibility for your own learning, completing all tasks set.
•You always demonstrate resilience and complete work to the best of your ability.
2 - Expected
•You are motivated and present a positive attitude to learning in lessons. •You contribute well to learning in class by taking part in discussions. •You are willing and work well with other pupils. •You take responsibility for your own learning, completing tasks set.
•You always complete work to the best of your ability and don't give up easily.
3 – Requires Some Improvement
•You do not always demonstrate a positive attitude to learning, sometimes needing encouragement to stay on task. •Your effort is inconsistent, often not contributing to class discussions. •You are sometimes unwilling to work with other pupils. •You do not always take responsibility for your own learning and often do not complete tasks set.
•You do not always complete work to the best of your ability.
4 – Unsatisfactory
•You need frequent reminders to stay on task and do not meet the expected standards of behaviour or effort. •Your lack of effort and focus has a negative impact on your learning and sometimes that of others. •You are often unwilling to work with other pupils. •You do not complete tasks set and need to take more responsibility for your own learning.
•You do not complete work to the best of your ability.

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Reporting Details

What will be reported at various times throughout the academic year 2025-26:

Report 1

Attitude to Learning Review – November 2025

All subjects grade on 1-4 (settling in feedback)

Report 2

Parents Progress Evening – Thursday 4th December 2025 4-7pm

At school – a chance to receive feedback from subject teachers

Report 3

Academic Review – July 2026

- Your child's result as a percentage
- The class average result as a percentage
- The year group average result as a percentage

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3° 3' 10.9"W

Safeguarding

(Mr Cairney, DSL)

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The Team

Core Safeguarding Team	
Inclusion & Designated Safeguarding Lead	Mr Cairney
Deputy Headteacher	Mr Nuttall
Deputy DSL	Miss Cooke

The Team

Wider Safeguarding Team	
Other DDSL trained staff	Ms Cunningham: Headteacher Mr Millington: Assistant Headteacher Mr Burton: Head of Sixth Form Mr Blakemore: Year 12 HOY **Pastoral Learning Mentors (Level 3 Trained)**
Extended Safeguarding Team	Heads of Year Senior Leadership Team

How is this achieved at Neston High School?

- **Communication:** vigilance and "over-reporting", "it can happen here”

200	450	900

Number of potential concerns in 2023-24 **2994** (16 a day)

Number of potential concerns raised in 2024-25 **3662** (19 a day)

How is this achieved at Neston High School?

- **Communication:** vigilance and "over-reporting", "it can happen here”

Number of potential concerns raised in 2024-25 **3662** (19 a day)

- **Training:** Regular and compulsory awareness training
- **Collaboration:** SCP, Children's Social Care, Starting Well Service, YPS, Community Police, CYC, other local schools, LJMU/MAPPS/Martin Gallier Project and Grass Roots
- **Supervision:** SCIES, DSL Networking, CSC Supervision, Trustee Scrutiny, SIP
- **Curriculum:** Not limited to 'acute cases'

Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) 2025

- **Managing Change:** transition, getting to know people, points of change, sleep and relaxation.
- **Puberty and body development:** healthy routines, influences on health, personal hygiene and puberty, self-esteem.
- **Friends, respect and relationships:** pressure, influence, friendships; consent and boundaries.
- **Staying safe, online and offline:** Energy drinks, vaping/e-cigarettes, online gaming, grooming and addiction.
- **Celebrating differences:** Prejudice and discrimination, breaking down stereotypes
- **Politics and Parliament:** the role of the PM, elections and campaigning.

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Standards and Expectations

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Strong Start

- The year group has started amazingly, well done!
- High expectations set early
- Positive attitude to learning
- Routines established: uniform, equipment, punctuality
- Listening actively in class
- Following instructions the first time
- Please help us maintain these high standards for the next seven years!

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Respect and Responsibility

- Show respect to staff and peers
- Pride in school and work
- Aspire to do your best every day
- Kindness and positive language
- Listen and follow instructions
- Take responsibility and keep our community safe

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Rewards and Celebration

- Rewards underpin everything we do
- Strive to achieve your best
- Formal and informal calendared events regularly throughout the year
- Positive points awarded daily
- Success celebrated regularly
- Everyone recognised for effort, achievement and improvements

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Sanctions

- We do not shy away from the fact that we have high standards and expectations for your children
- The below are the levels of behaviour and their sanction:

Level	Sanction/Detention
1	Personal
2	30 min
3	60 min
4	IE
5	Suspension

- After school detentions will have at least a day's notice.
- We expect children to attend and expect the support of parents in ensuring they reinforce this message at home

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The Importance of Attendance

- It shapes the foundation of learning.
- Even one day missed can mean falling behind
- Poor attendance often leads to weaker exam results
- Employers, colleges and universities check attendance as a sign of reliability
- Being in school every day means full access to teaching and feedback
- Parents are expected to challenge their child to get in. Fight those sniffles!

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90% Attendance is Good, isn't it?!

- 90% for one week – half a day missed (2 lessons)
- 90% for one term – 7 days missed (35 lessons)
- 90% for one year – 4 weeks missed (100 lessons)
- 90% for five years – 20 weeks missed (500 lessons!!)
  = *one grade lower in every subject*
- Every day counts!

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The Cost of Poor Attendance

- A recent study occurred comparing people at the age of 28 and their salaries against their final school attendance.

Attendance	Average Earnings at 28
99%-100%	£32,200
90%-98.9%	£29,800
50%-89.9% (Persistently Absent)	£19,500
Less than 50%	£10,100

- There is over a £20,000 difference between the best and worst attenders.
- Being in school more often supports with better prospects and future earnings.

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Uniform Reminders

- Shoes: black, polishable, no soft fabric, no logos
- Skirts at knee-length, pleated and not rolled up
- Black socks - no bows
- School bag
- Black ‘V neck’ school jumper
- No nail varnish, false nails, piercings or jewellery of any kind except one small stud in each ear.
- No excessive make-up, false tan or false eyelashes
- Information can be found on ‘Parent’ section of school website in the Parent Handbook: Uniform and Appearance

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Working Together

- First point of contact: Form tutor
- Subject related questions: Subject teacher / Curriculum Leader
- Pastoral Learning Mentor: Mrs Edwards Y8@nestonhigh.com
- Head of Year: Miss Rogers Y7@nestonhigh.com
- Special Educational Needs: Mrs Nisbet (SENDCo)
- Safeguarding (if you are concerned that there is a child at risk of serious harm): safeguarding@nestonhigh.com
- General enquiries: admin@nestonhigh.com
- *Please note, Neston High School operates a 48-hour call back policy, but the school will of course use professional judgement where your concern requires more urgent contact*

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Thank you!

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