



14 December 2016

Dear Parents and Carers

It is hard to believe that we are already a third through the school year. Time really does fly! I am writing to provide a few updates for our return in January.

I do hope you are all enjoying my new weekly blog. I certainly enjoy writing it and hopefully it gives you a better taste of daily school life and an opportunity to see what great students we have here at the school.

As we enter the Christmas period I would just like to remind everyone that our uniform expectations have not changed. These can be found on the school website if you need clarification. I have also attached them to this letter for your reference. I know that many students will be seeking the latest clothing fashions but it is important that what they wear to school matches our policy. If students are correctly dressed it reduces the need for teacher challenge and helps to maintain positive working relationships. Your support is greatly received.

If you are looking for 'stocking fillers' this Christmas – students love to receive equipment and stationery! I have also attached the equipment list that all students are expected to have. This was initially circulated before the start of the autumn term. Again, if you can support us in ensuring that your child is equipped to learn, we would hugely appreciate it.

There will be a small number of timetable changes for the last couple of weeks of term and in January for some students. It's nothing at all to worry about, it's simply to ensure that due to a couple of staff absences and a maternity leave, all students have the best teaching and learning opportunities every lesson.

I'm sure you recall that I emailed you last week about the Parent Forum. As mentioned the improvements discussed will be implemented in the New Year.

Finally, I would like to thank each and every one of you for your support this year. You have certainly made my first term as Headteacher of Plymstock School very enjoyable and I look forward to working with you in 2017.

Have a great Christmas and a happy New Year.

Yours sincerely

Robert Diment
HEADTEACHER

Uniform standards from 5 September 2016

The following expectations apply to all students in Years 7 – 11:

- Navy Blazer with school logo
- White shirt
- Clip-on school tie
- Trousers must be plain grey (not black) tailored school or suit style trousers. There should be no tapering (getting thinner) or flaring (widening) towards the ankle. Trousers that are skinny fit/skin-tight, denim, made of heavy cotton material, contain Lycra, or similar stretchy / elastic fabric that would cause them when worn to look skin tight/tapered are not permitted.
- School skirts should be plain grey and knee-length. Jersey or Lycra material is not permitted.
- Tights – navy blue or black.
- Socks – grey or black.
- An optional navy blue V-neck jumper with school logo can be worn.
- Coats should be plain navy blue or black. Leather jackets, denim coats, cardigans or hoodies are not permitted.
- If scarves are worn they should be plain navy blue or black.
- General jewellery and rings must NOT be worn. Watches are permitted but the school accepts no responsibility in the event of loss or damage. The ONLY types of earrings permitted are a pair of plain sleepers or studs worn in the lower earlobe. Ear stretchers, spikes, transparent studs or plugs are not permitted under any circumstances, including if a student has just had their ear pierced.
- Hair – no extreme fashion (e.g. no beads, un-natural colours, partially or fully shaved heads).
- Very light make-up is permitted in Years 10 and 11. This should be subtle and not readily visible. Nail varnish is not permitted.
- Shoes plain black school type shoes only. Trainers, canvas shoes, flip-flops, sandals, “dolly” shoes or shoes with coloured borders are not allowed.

If you are unsure of any item of uniform, please keep your receipts and tags and we will be happy to check it is suitable.

Equipment expectations

- The following equipment is expected to be brought daily to school by every student:
- 2 black or blue pens
- 1 green pen (for making corrections to work)
- 2 HB pencils
- Pencil sharpener
- Ruler
- Eraser
- Scientific calculator
- Colouring pencils
- Pair of compasses
- Protractor
- Glue stick

Mobile phones

Mobile phones are not to be used during the school day. If a student brings a mobile phone to school, it must be switched off and kept in their bag all day. The school accepts no liability for lost, stolen or damaged mobile phones. If a student needs to contact home during the day, the call can be made at the Student Support Hub.