



Tupton Hall School

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Summer Term Update

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope the last few weeks have provided an opportunity for families to enjoy time together after the last two years of isolations and disruption. Whilst Covid-19 continues to affect many of our lives, the clear sense of direction is heading positively towards normal schooling and all that this offers for our students.

What the last two years has confirmed, is that school plays a hugely important role in shaping the development of our children, and when this is disrupted, our children's development is disrupted. With this in mind, as we move into the final two terms of the academic year, we will be continuing to support and challenge all of our students to be courageous, committed and ambitious in order to help them engage fully back into school life.

This engagement begins with attendance to school. Through to the end of this academic year there are 59 school days. Every student should be ambitious and determined to achieve **96% attendance or above**. This equates to no more than 3 days off school through to the end of the academic year on 22 July 2022. Your help at home in supporting this goal is crucial, therefore please continue to communicate and work with school should this goal be at risk. School's job in this respect is to provide a safe, caring and engaging environment for your children to enjoy and develop. The staff will be working tirelessly to get this right for your children.

You will be aware from our Progress Review Day in February, that school is now offering a wide variety of extra-curricular activities in break times and after school. We are challenging students to be confident that they can get involved in these activities. They enrich the curriculum and provide lots of opportunities for students to develop their talents outside of the classroom. The school's rewards programme actively recognises students who get involved in these activities. This is a pledge that we wish to grow in school.

We have been producing a weekly news update on our website called Parents' Weekly. This has been well received by parents/carers <https://www.tuptonhall.org.uk/parents/parents-weekly> or check Class Charts and/or social media each Friday. Watch out for new 'blogs' this term.

Inevitably after two years of changes to routines and upset some of our children are suffering from heightened levels of anxiety. In school we have invested in counselling services, mental health specialists and, in the very near future, plan to appoint further specialist pastoral staff to meet this need. These services will complement current pastoral support for students and our work with external support services.

On return from the break, staff will be pushing hard again to further re-establish the high standards and expectations that students, parents and carers expect of the school. These standards are built on students believing that they can get better at anything if they work hard. We expect students to actively engage in lessons and work hard and not disrupt the learning of others. Please use the Class Charts portal to stay connected with school and review your child's progress on a regular basis. If there are any issues with this please contact the school.

We recognise that for some of our children isolation has led to them losing resilience, therefore they can give up easily when things get hard. Staff will work with students to help them develop the confidence and work habits to become resilient again. We will also expect our students to support one another and encourage each other to succeed. This means that students should show kindness and understanding of one another's efforts. These expectations form the basis of our RESEPCT cards this term where students will be rewarded for demonstrating these actions.

In line with our return to 'normal school' we are reverting fully back to the school dress code following the Easter break. The main point for clarification is that school jumpers are optional, and if worn should be a Tupton Hall School Navy 'V' neck jumper. They are not a replacement for a school blazer and should be worn under the blazer if necessary – see guidance <http://www.tuptonhall.org.uk/uniform> . School will be liaising with students and parents through to the end of the academic year to redesign this jumper from September 2022.

Thank you to parents and carers who have kindly donated school uniform to school. We would like this to become routine as we work together as a community to support one another in these difficult financial times. Therefore, please continue to send into school any items that you would like to offer for passing on to other students.

We look forward to welcoming our students back to school on Monday 25 April. Wishing Year 10 students good luck in their mock examinations on return, Year 11s in their GCSE and Year 13s in their A Level examinations in May and June 2022.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Knowles', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mr Andrew J Knowles
Headteacher