



12th February 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Half Term: Monday 17th February 2020 – Friday 21st February 2020

It has been another busy half term and I would like to thank students for their focus and hard work with many students preparing for external exams. We are very proud of our class of 2019 results which were well above average for progress at GCSE and our students have achieved good results at A Level and there were also very pleasing vocational results. Again, our students this half term have taken part in a wide variety of visits and opportunities which you can see on our website. Our Whalley Range Experience encompasses a range of trips for each year group, which we expect every student to take part in to widen their cultural capital.

Behaviour, punctuality and attendance

Behaviour is better than ever and attendance continues to improve. We are delighted to be achieving 96.2% attendance in the main school. Please continue to help us by not taking any holiday or family visits during term time. Punctuality is also improving, it is important that your daughter arrives on time to school every day, in her full school uniform and is in her form room at 8.30am each morning, in order to ensure that accurate registers are taken.

Parental Responsibilities

- It is your legal responsibility to advise us if you are going away and for how long you will be away.
- Who is looking after your daughter/acting in loco parentis during your absence from the family home.
- Full details of all up-to-date contacts and addresses.
- Failure to do the above will result in school sharing concerns with Children's Services.

SIMS Parent App

Thank you to the parents who have downloaded and been using the SIMS parent app. This means that your daughter's progress reports can be easily accessed and you can update any information such as phone numbers and changes to address on the app and this will then automatically update the school's systems. The app also allows you to stay informed about your daughter's attendance, homework and gold awards.

For any parent/carer who has not downloaded the SIMS parent app we have sent you an email which has the link to access the app. If you have any issues accessing the app please visit the school website <http://www.wrhs1118.co.uk/parents/sims-parent-app> or email parentapp@wrhs1118.co.uk for help and support.

Homework

The role of homework is to help students consolidate and extend their learning. It is important that students are proactive about organising their homework, using their planner or a digital device. When students complete homework with thought, care and on time, it really supports the learning process and helps them to make better progress in lessons. It would be helpful if you could support us by talking to your daughter about the homework she is getting, checking that she is managing the recording of homework and that she is organising her time to complete work to deadlines. Independent learning skills are important for success and the more we can do to help our students to develop these strategies, the better equipped they will be for college and university courses. You can see all of the homework that your daughter has been set and the deadlines, which will enable you in supporting your daughter's organisation and progress Please encourage your daughter to read at least one book over the holiday.

Examinations

Many of our students have external examinations coming up in May and June. Parents/Carers can help by encouraging their daughters to revise steadily each day, and keep up some physical exercise – even a ten minute walk will keep their brains fresh. Sixth Form and Year 11 students need to work on their actions from their pre-public exams over the half term holiday. Students have been given a range of resources and revision techniques to use to help with revision. There are some revision classes for students in Years 12 and 13 and Years 10 and 11 in the half term break. It is important that if your daughter has been invited to a class, that she attends the session from 10.00am – 1.00pm.

Social Time

It is important that all students engage in the positive activities available at lunchtime. Also at lunchtime, Year 11 students have rooms that they can study in and the Library is available for students to do work.

Duke of Edinburgh

We are very pleased that over 230 Year 10 students are taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh this year and we wish them the very best.

Work Experience

All students in Year 10 are given the valuable opportunity to complete a week's work experience. Year 10 students are going out week beginning 2nd March and need to have read the job descriptions and contacted their employer before they go.

Parking

Parents/Carers, it is really important that you help us to keep our students safe by not parking on the red lines outside the school entrance and by not doing U-turns in the road, as this can cause accidents. It will also help your daughter to build more exercise into her day if you park a little further away.

Health and Safety

For Health and safety reasons, it is essential that we know who is in the building at any point in time. All visitors and parents/carers must report to the Main Reception when they are coming into school, except for Parents Evenings when they are directed to come through the Student Entrance.

All students should leave the building by 3.15pm, unless they are in the Learning Resource Centre, in an after-school club, an organised subject study session or in detention. After the session or if using the Learning Resource Centre, all students must leave the building by 5.30pm.

I would also like to take this opportunity to ask that you remind your daughter of the importance of looking after her own personal safety on the way to and from school and being mindful of her own surroundings when crossing the road or walking to school.

Health and Wellbeing

At Whalley Range, the health and wellbeing of our students is vitally important and we ask that parents/carers ensure that students do not bring any fizzy drinks into school.

Sixth Form

It is the Sixth Form Parents' Evening on **Monday 9th March, 2020**. We are looking forward to this opportunity to discuss your daughter's progress and share revision strategies that your daughter should be engaging with. You will have received a letter to explain how to book an appointment online.

There are many opportunities in the Sixth Form for students to get involved with local businesses and Universities. We also have an excellent enrichment offer for all students in the Sixth Form. We have had many applications for the Sixth Form for next year. If your daughter has not yet applied, please get your application in as quickly as possible so that we can set up an interview.

Year 8 Academic Tutorial

This is on **Monday 30th March 2020**, after school, when you will have the opportunity to discuss your daughter's progress with her Learning Coach. You will be receiving a letter/email to explain how to book an appointment online.

Key Contact Information

If you would like to speak to someone about your daughter's progress, personal development or have any concerns, please contact your daughter's House/Sixth Form Office on one of the numbers given below:

Angelou (MA) House (Phone 0161 860 2975)

Head of House – Miss Bakare
House Coordinator – Mr Ellis-Scott
House Admin – Mrs Luker

Franklin (RF) House (0161 860 2977)

Head of House – Mrs Witt
House Coordinator – Mr H Mustafa
House Admin – Mrs Khaliq

Germain (SG) House (0161 860 2978)

Head of House – Miss Bevan
House Coordinator – Mrs S Mackenzie
House Admin – Mrs Hannan

Hepburn (AH) House (0161 860 2976)

Head of House – Mr B Mustafa
House Coordinator – Miss F Black
House Admin – Mrs Booth

Parks (RP) House (0161 860 2979)
Head of House – Miss Costello
House Coordinator – Mrs Carr
House Admin – Miss Ennis/Ms Carroll

Sixth Form (0161 860 2984)
Head of Year 12 –Mrs Z Davies
Assistant Head of Year 12 – Miss Oliver
Head of Year 13 – Mrs Maloney-Rock
Sixth Form Admin – Mrs Daniels

Please find enclosed the Term Dates for the remaining of this academic year (2019-2020) and the new Term Dates for the 2020-2021 academic year.

I would like to thank you all for your continued support in helping your daughter to achieve success.

Yours sincerely



Mrs E Hole
Academy Headteacher

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Term dates for the Academic Year September 2019 – July 2020

Spring Term

Half term holiday: Monday 17 February 2020 – Friday 21 February 2020

Term ends: Friday 3 April 2020

Easter break: Monday 6 April 2020 – Friday 17 April 2020

Summer Term

Term starts: Monday 20 April 2020

May Day holiday: Monday 4 May 2020

Teacher Training Day: Friday 22 May 2020 – **closed to students** **Year 11 students to attend any scheduled GCSE exams**

Half term holiday: Monday 25 May 2020 – Friday 29 May 2020

Term ends: Friday 17 July 2020

Teacher Training Days: Monday 20 July 2020 – **closed to students**

Public Holidays

Christmas Day – Wednesday 25 December 2019

Boxing Day – Thursday 26 December 2019

New Year's Day – Wednesday 1 January 2020

Good Friday – Friday 10 April 2020

Easter Monday – Monday 13 April 2020

May Day – Monday 4 May 2020

Spring Bank Holiday – Monday 25 May 2020

Leave of absence in Term Time

If your daughter has time off before or after any school holiday, her absence will be classed as Unauthorised Absence and the Local Authority may issue a penalty notice. (You should also be aware that if her absence exceeds 20 days, her name may be removed from our register).

Any leave of absence in term time must be applied for at least 10 days in advance. Official forms for this purpose are obtainable from Student Services. I would also advise you that any Unauthorised Leave taken during term time may incur a penalty fine from the Local Authority. The fine will be £120 per parent per child reduced to £60 per parent per child if paid with 21 days.

Term dates for the Academic Year September 2020 - July 2021

Autumn Term

Teacher Training Day: Thursday 3 September 2020 – school closed to students

Teacher Training Day: Friday 4 September 2020 – school closed to students

Term starts: Monday 7 September 2020

Half term holiday: Monday 26 October 2020 – Friday 30 October 2020

Term ends: Friday 18 December 2020

Christmas holiday: Monday 21 December 2020 – Friday 1 January 2021

Spring Term

Term starts: Monday 4 January 2021

Half term holiday: Monday 15 February 2021 – Friday 19 February 2021

Term ends: Thursday 1 April 2021

Easter break: Friday 2 April 2021 – Friday 16 April 2021

Summer Term

Term starts: Monday 19 April 2021

May Day holiday: Monday 3 May 2021

Half term holiday: Monday 31 May 2021 – Friday 4 June 2021

Term ends: Friday 23 July 2021

Teacher Training Days

There will be 3 additional teacher training days to be confirmed.

Public Holidays

Christmas Day – Friday 25 December 2020

Boxing Day – Monday 28 December 2020 (in lieu of 26 December 2020)

New Year's Day – Friday 1 January 2021

Good Friday – Friday 2 April 2021

Easter Monday – Monday 5 April 2021

May Day – Monday 3 May 2021

Spring Bank Holiday – Monday 31 May 2021