



Thursday 19th October 2023

Dear Parent(s) / Carer(s)

We are two weeks into the second half of the Autumn term and on the whole it has been a really positive and calm return to school. We have started to see a shift in the weather so can I ask parents to ensure their children wear a proper black, red or white coat to school and not a hoodie and check they have the correct black, leather polishable school shoes, in order to keep them warm and dry.

Parents' Behaviour

Recently, there have been instances where the tone of communication between parents and school staff has become strained. Unfortunately a small minority of our KS3 parents believe that it is acceptable to be rude and abusive to our staff and use language that is not appropriate for students, let alone adults. I appreciate that parents may struggle with understanding the changes from primary to secondary school and the expectations of their children as they become older and more independent. However, please allow your children to learn from their mistakes and not cover for them as later down the line it often becomes a problem at home. An example would be covering for missing items etc. Staff are more than willing to work with parents; but this must be respectful and at a minimum civil. If this continues I will be left with no option but to take further action against those parents. Remember, the staff at our school are dedicated to the well-being and academic success of your child. We believe that maintaining a positive and respectful relationship between parents and staff is crucial for creating a supportive learning environment.

Parking

Unfortunately we are being inundated with complaints from local residents with the way parents are

- Blocking their driveways
- Parking across the zebra crossing
- Stopping in the middle of the road to let students in/out of cars
- Encouraging students to run cross the road
- Being abusive to residents when asked to move.



Empowerment



Equality



Empathy



Excellence

Please can I ask parents to be mindful, put yourselves in their shoes, imagine if this your street or home address and these things are taking place, how would you feel. Please can I ask parents to be more considerate of the neighbours when coming to collect your daughters, can I suggest that you park further away and walk down to meet them or get them to walk up and meet you.

Residents have put in numerous complaints to the council and police. We really do not want the surrounding roads to become residents parking only/red routes and in one case I have heard of adding sections of Norbury Crescent to the school street system.

Prayer room

The prayer room is available to students at the following times:

- Before school
- Break times
- Lunch times
- After school

We appreciate that some of our senior students have period 6 lessons and whilst the majority of the time that is not an issue we know that as we move towards winter, the Muslim prayer timings shift thus making the window of time to pray tighter. **For students in Year 10 - Year 13**, if you would like them to have permission to **pray quickly in period 6 during this winter period** please put this in writing to the Head of Year via the form tutor. I reiterate that this is only for students in these year groups for this period of time.

Upcoming events for your diaries:

15.11.23 Year 11 exams evening

17.11.23 Year 7 Well Being Conference

20.11.23 Save the children fundraising event 3.15-4.30pm

24.11.23 CATs testing day for Year 7. Selected students also in school for exam specific reasons

27.11.23 Inset day - school closed

29.11.23 Deep Learning Day 1

30.11.23 Year 11 Mock exams begin



Anti-Bullying Week

Next week is Anti-Bullying week and the theme for the week is “Make some Noise”. This theme is about making some noise and standing up against bullying. We will be changing the PSHE lessons so students will be participating in lessons which revolve around anti-bullying and there will be competitions throughout the week.

On Friday 17th November we will be running Odd Socks Day where we encourage all staff and students to come into school wearing odd socks. This day is one where we celebrate each other’s differences. Please encourage your students to get involved in the week’s activities and to wear odd socks on Friday to join our community in celebrating each other’s uniqueness.

Community news

Following on from my assembly last half term and ideas put forward from the students, we will be hosting a fundraising event on Monday 20th November 2023 from 3.15-4.30 to raise money for the Save the Children charity who are working in war torn areas to support children.

Wishing you all a good weekend and we look forward to seeing our students back in school next week.

Best wishes

Mrs M Hayden,
Head teacher

*Norbury High provides its students with the support, knowledge and opportunities they deserve, to become **empowered** and **empathetic** individuals, who value **equality** and strive for **excellence**.*

