



Headteacher: Tim Marston

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Dear Parents & Carers of students in Years 8, 9, 10 & 11

We are really looking forward to having the students back in school for the start of the new term on Friday 1st September. It doesn't matter how many times you have done this, the first day back always seems to make you feel nervous, even the staff get that funny feeling in their stomach! Fortunately, most of the time it only lasts till you walk through the school doors and then you realise how good it feels to be back!

Below is some useful information to help you and your child prepare for the start of term.

New Academic Year 2023/2024

School re-opens for the new academic year on Friday 1st September.

Year 7s should be at school no later than 8.35am.

Year 8, 9, 10 & 11 will start slightly later at 9.10am (for 1st Sept only).

School will finish at 3.10pm for all year groups.

From Monday 4th September there will no longer be a staggered start and finish to the day. ALL year groups should be on the school site no later than 8.35am and will finish at 3.10pm.

Tutor time is being reintroduced so that students see their tutor at the start of each day.

Attached are the Term Dates for 2023/2024 and 2024/2025.

Arriving at School

Only the Asda entrance and the Syston entrance (the left hand gateway as you stand and face the school) will be open for students to enter the school. **Therefore, parents are requested not to bring their cars onto the site as the exit gate is not open.** Please use the carpark opposite the school to drop off students. Students **MUST** use the bridge to cross over to the school.

Students bringing bikes onto site will be directed by staff to the bike sheds. Please ensure that your child has a suitable lock. Bikes are left at the owners risk.

Please note that electric scooters and bikes are not permitted on site.

Uniform

The up to date Uniform list can also be found attached. Please ensure that your child is wearing the correct uniform and PE kit. Over the holidays, if your child has chosen to have their nails done or had facial piercings please ensure that these are removed before we return to school as these are not part of our Uniform Policy and sanctions will be given.

Could we draw your attention to the PE Kit.

Students will need to bring their kit to school and get changed into their kit on days when they have PE on their timetable.

Students in years 8, 9, 10 & 11 – will need to check their timetables on Arbor to see if they have PE on the first day back. If students have PE on your timetable on 1st September they must bring your PE kit to school with them.

Please ensure that you label every item of uniform and PE kit, clearly with your child's name.

Year 11 photographs

Year 11 students will have their photographs taken on Monday 4th September so that their Cashless Payment cards can be updated. Their Cashless Payment card will also be their identification for their exams next summer so the photo needs to show a true likeness. Any students who have PE on Monday 4th September will have their photo taken before PE.

Timetables

Timetables are available on Arbor, see the tab marked Calendar. Students may find it useful to take a photo of the timetable on their phone so that it is easy to access when they are preparing their equipment etc for the next day.

For parents the Arbor App is an easy way to see your child's timetable. Attached is a reminder of how to use the Arbor App. The App doesn't have as many functions as the Parent Portal which you have to access online but it is a useful tool for parents on the go.

Equipment

For students to be successful in their learning they need to come to school each day with the right equipment. Please ensure your child has a pencil case with the following items:

- A Casio scientific calculator for maths and science (Casio FX83GTX or the FX85GTX)
- Two pens (blue or black) for writing in your exercise books
- A purple pen for responding to teacher's feedback
- Two HB pencils
- A ruler, rubber and pencil sharpener
- Coloured pencil crayons – not felt tips
- A pencil case
- A small note book to jot down things you need to remember
- A refillable water bottle
- Cashless Payment card
- A school bag that will fit all your equipment plus an A4 folder
- A reading book

Catering – Breaks and Lunchtimes

Please ensure that your child's Cashless Payment account has sufficient funds on it for them to purchase any food they require at break or lunch. There are occasions when a student does not have sufficient funds and whilst we do try to contact home, given the time restrictions of the break periods this isn't always possible. In addition, when you make your payment on Arbor Payments, it can take at least 30 mins to show up on our system. Where sufficient funds aren't available, we will always offer what we call a 'basic packed lunch'; this includes a sandwich or roll, fruit or cake and a bottle of water. We do this to ensure that students do not go without food and drink but also it keeps the additional costs on your account to a minimum so that we aren't encouraging further debt to be accrued.

We hope that you will continue to support us with this by topping up your child's account in advance, ready for them to start back to school.

Please talk to us if you are finding things difficult.

Allergens & Dietary Requirements

You may recall being asked to complete a form for Allergens and Dietary requirements last year. We require you to do the same again this year please. Lots of you have already completed this information for us. If you have not yet completed the information on the link we sent out please could you do so before the start of term.

The link is below:

<https://forms.office.com/e/Y17n0wSxpG>

REMINDER

We aim to be a nut free environment as we have students and staff with nut allergies, please DO NOT send your child with nuts. Please also be mindful about food that contains nuts.

Absence

If your child cannot come to school because they are unwell or for any other reason, you must contact the relevant Head of Year on one of the following numbers either by text or voicemail.

If you wish to speak to one of our Heads of Year for anything other than attendance please contact the main school office on 0116 2693896

Year 7 - Miss Osborn - 07935 013869

Year 8 – Mrs Brown - 07598 558629

Year 9 – Mrs Wheeler - 07958 013 869

Year 10 – Mrs Brook - 07598 558 624

Year 11 – Miss Tinson - 07598 558 644

Working with us

We are keen to work together with parents & carers to ensure that your child can be the best that they can be, and leave school as a well rounded individual ready to take on the next steps in their life. Please talk to us if you have concerns, the earlier we are aware of a problem the sooner we can try to help. Your child's tutor will be your first point of contact, or your child's Head of Year if your Tutor is unable to help. Please contact office@roundhill.bepschools.org or contact the member of staff directly.

We look forward to working with you and your child over the coming year.

Kind regards

Tim Marston
Headteacher