

10th May 2024

Dear Parents / Carers

We hope this letter finds you well and that you had a good bank holiday weekend.

The Year 11 GCSE exams started yesterday and finish on the 19th June. The GCSE exams represent a significant milestone in your child's educational journey. These assessments provide an opportunity for students to demonstrate their knowledge, skills and understanding across a range of subjects. The grades achieved in these exams can have a lasting impact on their future educational and career pathways. It is therefore really important that Year 11 students attend each day of the exam period. We thank you in advance for all your support with your child's exam preparation.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the GCSE exams or your child's preparations, please do not hesitate to contact either Mrs Sampson-Emecz or your child's tutor.

Attendance

Attendance year to date = 90.9% Persistent Absence year to date = 25.5% [less than 90%]		
Year 7	92.6%	20.1%
Year 8	92.5%	22.7%
Year 9	89.9%	34.6%
Year 10	90.4%	23.4%
Year 11	88.1%	27.8%

Safeguarding

The Wiltshire Police Youth and Early Intervention Team work with schools, colleges and partners to share messages and educate young people. The aim is to keep young people in our community safe from harm and exploitation, whilst educating them where they can go for support.

Op Sceptre, a week-long national campaign aimed at tackling knife crime, is running from 13th May – 17th May 2024. Wiltshire Police's Youth and Early Intervention Team would like to raise awareness of weapons and knife crime within Swindon and Wiltshire. We wanted to give you, as trusted adults, some useful and helpful information on the following subjects:

- How to recognise the signs that may indicate that your young people are potentially at risk of being exploited or vulnerable to carrying/storing weapons.
- Safeguarding and signposting information on who to turn to and which agencies can help you.

Wiltshire Police aims to raise awareness around knife crime and carrying weapons on the streets of Swindon and Wiltshire. We need your help as trusted adults to ensure that every young person knows what the risks are. This will help them make informed and educated choices moving forward in their lives.

Uniform

Please can we ask for your help in ensuring your child is wearing the correct uniform. Students should only be wearing PE uniform if they have PE that day, if they do not have PE they must be wearing the full school uniform. We know the weather is getting warmer but we still have the same uniform requirements in the summer term, students are also required to wear their blazers. A reminder that students choosing to wear PE shorts on their PE uniform days, must ensure that these are loose fitted, in line with the uniform policy. Cycling shorts are not permitted.

Students need to bring the headphones into school to connect with their chromebooks. These are needed in some lessons and are part of the equipment list.

Future Events

10th May	: Netball trip to Bath
23rd May	: Year 6 Information Evening 6pm
24th May	: End of Term 5 (Week 2 - students finish at 12.50pm)
24th - 26th May	: DofE Silver Expedition practice
3rd June	: Start of Term 6 - 8.30am
12th June	: Year 8 & 9 HPV
20th June	: Year 6 information evening 6pm
20th June	: Year 11 Leavers Assembly

With our continued thanks. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or need any further information.

Mrs Leigh-Bennett
Headteacher