



Dream big • Do your best • Give back

10<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

The last week of term 3 has been a busy one with lots of different activities taking place across the school. It was a delight to host our first Lighthouse Schools Partnership Student Leaders conference yesterday, bringing together our student leaders from the secondary schools in the Trust to look at how they have been able to actively support the development of their school through their work in partnership with the school's leadership teams. Well done to all those students involved.

I also, just wanted to say well done to all the students in Year 9 currently involved in their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award preparation. We have a large cohort of students involved, and they successfully spent last Sunday walking the Gordano Round. Thank you to all our parents and staff who continue to support our students through these preparation activities ready for their expedition later in the year.

### **Year 8 Progress Evening – Change of Date**

Please note that our Year 8 Progress Evening which was scheduled to take place on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March, has now been brought forward to Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March. This is to avoid it clashing with a future potential strike date. The usual booking information will be shared in advance of this date with parents.

### **Year 9 Baseline Assessments**

Parents will be aware that we did not include target grades on recent reports, and that we were looking at how we collected data to support this. We have made the key decisions on the process, and we will be using an online assessment with students during term 4 to collect the data and set up individual target grades.

### **Dropping off and picking up students**

Thank you for all your support in ensuring that the roads around the school remain safe for all in our community at those busy times. Please bear in mind the following:

- The coach park off Clevedon Road is a good place to drop off safely off-road but is also used as parking for school staff so can be particularly busy in the morning. Please only drop and go in this area. The access onto the road can be difficult and needs particular care. The gates from the coach park are locked at 8.40am so after this time students will need to walk back to the main gate.

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**LIGHTHOUSE**  
SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP

- The bus stop near the St Marys Road gate is clearly marked for buses only. There is a potential fixed penalty notice for any other vehicle pulling into that bay. The Neighbourhood Police team are keen that parents observe this.

### **Parent Forum**

We had a productive parent forum on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February where we discussed communication between school and home to establish what is working well and what needs to be improved. We will outline our next steps at the start of next term. Thank you to those parents in attendance for their contributions and partnership in helping us improve how we work together. If you are interested in being part of the forum, the next one will be on 20<sup>th</sup> March 6pm – 7.30pm, where we will be discussing the school uniform and the quality of food provision in the canteen and dining hall. If you are interested in being part of our forum, please click on the link and follow the instructions: [Parent Forum](#)

### **Uniform**

**From 20<sup>th</sup> February** students will be expected to **wear blazers** as part of their **formal uniform** again. Please can you ensure that your child has a blazer and all the appropriate uniform items in readiness for this date. If your child doesn't have their blazer or any uniform item and you will find it difficult to get the item for 20<sup>th</sup> February, please can we ask you to get in touch with your child's tutor or pastoral team.

### **Safeguarding**

This report looks at **Recognising & acting on signs of 'county lines' child exploitation:** [recognising-acting-on-signs-of-county-lines](#)

### **Nut Free School**

A reminder to parents and carers that we are a nut free school. Please do remind your children of this.

Can we also remind parents that students should not be bringing bottles of Prime (an energy drink) on to the school site.

From everyone at Gordano, we wish all our families a wonderful half term break.

Yours sincerely



**Ms L Blundell**  
**Headteacher**