



15th September 2023

Dream big • Do your best • Give back

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this update finds you all well. This week we have continued work around our value of 'kindness' and have really enjoyed seeing the impact our young people are having within the community of the school. Our House and Year 7 assemblies have focussed on what we can do individually when thinking of our own actions. This week's assembly slides are available to parents [here](#).

We are also looking forward to welcoming parents back into school for our face-to-face parent information evenings. Last year we held these meetings virtually; however, whilst convenient in many ways, the virtual world for longer meetings such as these seem impersonal, and we are keen for that not to be the case. To ensure that we can manage numbers you will be required to book a space using the links below. Whilst we will be sharing the slide deck from each evening for parents unable to attend, we do encourage you to join us. The premise of each evening is to look at the year ahead and to ensure as parents you are able to fully support your child in the next steps. If you are a parent that has children in different year groups and therefore are unable to attend each meeting – then we do suggest prioritising exam year students or your Year 7 child and then using the slide decks that we will provide for the specific year group information. Due to space limitations, we do ask that only parents come to the evening/s.

[Year 8 – 18th September 6pm – 6.45pm](#)

[Year 8 – 18th September 6.45pm - 7.30pm](#)

[Year 10 – 19th September 6pm – 6.45pm](#)

[Year 10 – 19th September 6.45pm - 7.30pm](#)

[Year 13 – 20th September 6pm - 7pm](#)

[Year 9 – 21st September 6pm – 6.45pm](#)

[Year 9 – 21st September 6.45pm - 7.30pm](#)

[Year 7 – 2nd October 6pm – 6.45pm](#)

[Year 7 – 2nd October 6.45pm - 7.30pm](#)

[Year 11 – 3rd October 6pm – 7pm](#)

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LIGHTHOUSE
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Punctuality

Last week students were given clear expectations around punctuality. It is vital that students arrive to school on time and at the latest time of 8.40am, ready to be in tutor time at 8.45am. This is so important in terms of ensuring that students do not miss tutor time and assemblies as this is a key part of starting the school day positively and to ensure that students have all the relevant and key information for the day and week ahead. This week we have seen several students not making it to school on time and we want to ensure that arriving on time is a habit that students get into very early in the year. We very much appreciate the support of parents with this. The latest sanctions have now started, and any student who is late to school twice or more in one week will receive an after-school detention the following Monday.

Nasal Flu Immunisations – 28th & 29th November

Students in Years 7 – 11 are being offered flu vaccinations this winter to help protect them from flu and serious complications such as bronchitis and pneumonia. Vaccinating your child will also help protect you, your family and friends. The flu vaccine is administered using a nasal spray, this vaccine is free and painless. If you wish your child to receive the vaccination at school, please ensure you complete your consent form at:

<https://imms.sirona-cic.org.uk/flu/2023/consent?v=1.23>

Timetables and Class Charts

We are aware that there are some issues with timetables being visible in Class Charts. We have escalated this to Class Charts and are awaiting a resolution. In the meantime, students do have paper copies of their timetables to refer to.

RAAC

As you are aware, we have established there are two small areas of RAAC in the Gordano school buildings. We are working with the DfE to implement our plan of action to deal with this and get to a position where we can reopen the corridor we have closed off as part of our safety mitigations.

We have also had the DfE appointed surveyor in school this week, and we are happy to report that they have concluded that these are the only areas of RAAC usage throughout the Gordano School estate.

Year 12 Parent Information Evening

It was lovely to meet so many Year 12 parents at our Information Evening on Wednesday. If you were unable to attend the meeting, or just want to go back over some of the information we shared, the presentation is available on the school website [here](#).

Safeguarding Updates

Please find below some useful information for parents concerned about vaping and safety on VCR:

[I'm worried about my child vaping - Support for Parents from Action For Children](#)
[VR technology: Update from NSPCC](#)

SEND Information

It is timely at the start of the academic year to clarify the processes around our support of students who have a known Special Educational Need or Disability. Over the course of the next few weeks, parents and carers of students with SEND will be receiving an email which will outline the Trust's and Gordano's SEND process. It will also be an opportunity to confirm which stage the young people are currently identified at and the corresponding level of intervention.

We also want to take this opportunity to thank you for your patience as the SEND team are receiving an extremely high volume of emails. We work very hard to respond to all requests in a timely manner so thank you for your understanding.

Yours sincerely



Ms L Blundell
Headteacher

Key Dates for Term 1

Mon 18th Sep: Year 8 Parental Information Evening

Tue 19th Sep: Year 10 Parental Information Evening

Wed 20th Sep: Year 13 Parental Information Evening

Thu 21st Sep: Year 9 Parental Information Evening,

Thu 28th Sep: Open Evening for Prospective Year 7 Pupils, 4.00 – 7.30pm (school finishes at end of lesson 4 at 12:55)

Fri 29th Sep: INSET DAY 3

Mon 2nd Oct: Year 7 Parental Information Evening, 6.00 – 7.00pm in the Main Hall

Tue 3rd Oct: Year 11 GCSE Music Coursework Recording Day

Tue 3rd Oct: Senior Maths Challenge (Years 12-13)

Tue 3rd Oct: Year 11 Parental Information Evening, 6.00 – 7.00pm in the Main Hall

Wed 4th Oct: Year 11 GCSE Music Coursework Recording Day

Thu 5th Oct: Year 11 GCSE Music Coursework Recording Day

Thu 5th Oct: Gordano Careers Convention, 6.00 – 8.00pm in the Main Hall

Fri 6th Oct: Year 6 Open Morning, 9.45 – 11.00am in the Sixth Form Hall

Tue 10th Oct: World Mental Health Day – Hello Yellow

Tue 10th Oct: Parent Forum, 6.00 – 7.00pm in CR1

Wed 11th Oct: Year 11 GCSE Dance Set Phrase Exam (all day)

Thu 12th Oct: Year 7 – 13 Tutor Reviews, 4.00 – 7.30pm, online

Wed 18th Oct: Year 11 GCSE Art Photography Mock Exam (all day)

Thu 19th Oct: Year 11 GCSE Art Photography Mock Exam (all day)