



1st July 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we approach the last few weeks of term we have so much to celebrate; the resilience and drive of examination groups with leavers services and proms, inspiring work experience placements for Year 10 and Year 12 students, praise for progress made in effort and achievements by Year 7 and Year 8 students in end of year examinations. Year 9 have already embarked on their GCSE journey completing practice papers in GCSE Religious Studies. September will not just be about wearing a KS4 tie for Year 9, but embarking on chosen pathways, fulfilling aspirations and also becoming role models for the younger years.

Our whole school attendance throughout the pandemic has been above national average and we finish this academic year 7% above the national average for secondary schools. This year our BEST points totals are nearly 100,000 more than pre pandemic totals, with just over 1,500 BEST points being awarded every day.

We will also be refocussing students on pride in appearance and the importance of being equipped and ready to learn in advance of the holidays. Attached is our uniform policy for parental guidance to support your planning for September. Year Leaders Celebration Assemblies will take place from 11th July showcasing how so many students not only meet but exceed our expected standards in their efforts, choices, and sense of community.

What is happening the rest of term

- **Monday 11th July** lessons will encourage students to reflect on themes of Hope and Aspiration.
- **Monday 18th July** – Social Action Non-School Uniform Day
We will be holding our final Social Action Day of the year to give our students an opportunity to engage in charitable work, put Jesus` teachings of love into practice and be of service to others. We have raised over £3,200 throughout our Social Action days this year for our year group charities and the Ukraine appeal. A minimum donation of £2 is required per participating child via the School Gateway or send the cash into school with your child on Monday 18th.
- On **Tuesday 19th July** - Personal Development Day
These exciting opportunities are aimed at allowing students to reflect and develop their understanding of the world and we are sure that these learning experiences will have impact on the young people involved. Year 7 students will be completing their Archbishop of York Award, Year 8 are looking forward to a trip to Liverpool to the Slavery Museum and Walker Art gallery and Year 9 will be taking part in an Internet Safety Day where they will explore how to be safe online.
- **Wednesday 20th July** - Bishops' Games.
Heats will be happening in the morning with the school community gathering in the afternoon to celebrate. We expect records to be smashed again this year and the day to be a celebration of our achievements. Students should bring a water bottle and sun cream as we hope it will be a sunny day! Chilled refreshments will also be available for students to purchase from the snack hut.

- **Thursday 21st July**

The last day of term and an opportunity to reflect on our enriching experiences, achievements, and prepare for the next year. School will finish at 1.15pm.

Looking after our Community

Over the past month, I have shared safeguarding messages with parents and carers and want to thank you for responses to these. In an assembly I led to students last week I talked about how 'childhood in 2022, is different' and how together with parents/carers we are here to walk alongside our young people, to guide and to support them with identifying risky behaviours and making positive choices.

Warm weather always makes water tempting to cool off. Next week students will be receiving water safety presentations from Cheshire Police.

Safer Internet Awareness is important for both students and parents/carers. We have been asked to draw parents/carers attention to a free Gaming and gambling Awareness and information session on **12th July 6.00pm – 7.15pm**. The link to book a parent workshop can be found here: [Workshops Archive - Parents.Ygam](#). The UK Safer Internet organisation is also a very good source for information and resources <https://saferinternet.org.uk/blog/new-parental-supervision-tools-for-instagram-and-quest-vr>

In May, Education Secretary Nadhim Zahawi talked about the impact the pandemic continues to have on education and achievements of young people. We cannot deny the challenges that the pandemic continues to present. However, I am encouraged by our collective efforts and proud of the achievements of our students who continue to exceed BESt (Bishops' Expected Standards). The last few weeks of term are an opportunity to reflect on the year just gone and focus on September with renewed energy and excitement. Bishops' is an exciting place to be and that is down to our school community and the students who are at heart of everything we do. I hope you can enjoy a safe summer break and look forward to what 2022/23 brings.

Kind regards



Ms Helen Cairns
Deputy Headteacher