



22nd July 2019

Dear Parents,

Looking forward to the new academic year 2019-20

It has been a busy but extremely positive academic year and, undoubtedly, students and staff deserve a well-earned break to rest and recharge. As well as enjoying the holiday, we are focused on preparing for the new academic year and this letter will support a smooth start in September.

Staffing Changes:

As is the case each academic year in schools we have staff that are leaving Tarleton Academy to take up new roles in different schools or organisations. We would like to thank all of them for their commitment and their dedication to ensuring that our young people have been supported effectively. We also have several new teachers starting employment at Tarleton Academy from September.

There will be changes to the middle leadership team as we are saying goodbye to Miss McGregor who takes up new challenges away from Tarleton Academy. We will welcome Mrs Lee to the Foundation Faculty. Within the Maths Faculty, both Miss Day and Mr Greenwood will be leaving us and we will welcome Mr Higgins. We will also welcome Mr Curtis to the English Faculty, Miss Tattersall (teacher of Religious Education), Miss Knowles (teacher of History) to the Foundation Faculty and Miss Alcock to the Science & Physical Education Faculty.

The tutor group changes to new academic year are shown below:

Current Tutor Group	New Tutor Group
Mr Gwinnett (W-RGW)	Mr Dugdale (W-TDU)
Miss McGregor (W-AMC)	Mrs Lee (F-CCL)
Mrs Fellows (W-AFE)	Mrs Shipton (W-SSH)
Mr Greenwood (E-MGR)	Mr Evans (E-GEV)
Miss Riley (F-LRI)	Mr Curtis (F-GCU)
Miss Day (F-RDA)	Mr Higgins (F-RHI)

As you are already aware, we have added an additional tutor group into each house to account for the growing numbers of students on roll and to ensure that tutor groups sizes facilitate strong personal relationships with their tutor. The new tutor groups are as follows:

Outstanding education at the heart of the community

House	New Tutor Group
Wiggins	Miss Knowles (W-EKN)
Farah	Mrs Sprague (F-RSP)
Daley	Miss Alcock (D-AAL)
Ennis	Mrs D Corner (E-DCO)

Student Planners:

Planners will be issued to all Year 7 students. In Years 8 to 11 planners will be issued to those students for whom tutors feel it would support their organisation. Students will also be able to request a planner if they feel it would support their personal organisation. Planners include a timetable section, a week to view to record homework and a notes section. We have decided to slim down the planner and adopt this approach after consulting students and staff about their use. The vast majority of students in Years 7-10 now use Chromebooks on a daily basis. This, together with the facts that the school's computer suites are available for use at lunchtime and afterschool and that ease of access to individual Classcharts portal has improved, mean that the use of planners is not required by all students.

Class Charts Portal:

New Year 7 parents will receive a separate letter detailing the way to set up your Class Charts Parent Portal account. Any parents of students in Years 8-11 who are having issues with their own access to the Parental Portal please in the first instance check the academy's website www.tarletonacademy.org/parents/class-charts . If, after reading this information, you have any further issues please contact classcharts@tarletonacademy.org .

Uniform and Appearance:

We are very proud of the fact that the vast majority of our students continually wear the correct uniform with pride and attend school with, what we deem, an appropriate appearance. As a reminder of our expectation, our uniform requirements are listed below:

- White shirt with top button fastened and shirt tails tucked into trousers or skirt
- Black school trousers or school badged skirt (skirts are required to be knee length)
- Black blazer with school badge and house badge
- Clip-on school tie
- Plain black socks (without bows and no higher than the knee) or plain black tights (socks should not be worn over tights)
- Footwear is to be plain black, smart, sturdy shoes (boots, trainers, pumps, fabric or high heels are not acceptable)
- Outdoor clothing is to be a plain dark coloured coat (casual outer garments such as non-school jumpers, hoodies, fleeces, cardigans, leather or denim jackets are not acceptable)

I would also like to emphasise the policy we have for a knee length skirt. The expectation is that the skirt touches the top of the knee and allows room for growth. We also have a policy that all trousers should be regular school trousers (in keeping with our blazer, to create a 'suit' look) and not tight-fitting or 'skinny fit' trousers which are more suitable as fashion wear. Footwear must be plain, black, smart, sturdy shoes. Please also remember that we have a no jewellery policy, except for a small

single plain gold or silver stud earring in each ear lobe. A reminder also that extreme hairstyles or colourings are not allowed.

Equipment:

It is important that students arrive at school with the minimum expected items of equipment to allow them to access lessons and learning. Our expectation is that students have the following on a daily basis:

- a sturdy dark coloured school bag for school equipment
- a pen, pencil, ruler, eraser and whiteboard pen (*these items can also be purchased from the school dining rooms during break and lunchtime*)

All students must ensure that their Chromebook is brought to school on a daily basis, fully charged and with a set of basic headphones, for use in lessons when requested by teaching staff. Students who are borrowing Chromebooks must ensure that they collect them on a daily basis and return them at the end of each day.

More recently, we have noticed that a small number of students are not taking care of their Chromebooks as we would expect – removing keys, peeling or picking the casing for example. We would ask parents to keep a regular check on their child's machine. We fully understand that these are expensive items. They should be able to support your child's learning throughout their secondary schooling and beyond, if looked after well.

Key Dates for the first half-term

Please see below key dates for your diaries during the first half term:

- Wednesday 4th September – Year 7 and Year 11 in school for the full day. Years 8, 9 & 10 attend for their Review Day appointments only.
- Thursday 5th September – All students in school for 8.45am.
- Thursday 5th September – Year 7 Parents' Information Evening at 6.00pm.
- Thursday 12th September – Year 10 Parents' Information Evening at 6.00pm and Year 11 Parents' Information Evening at 7.00pm.
- Tuesday 17th September - Year 8 Parents' Information Evening at 6.00pm and Year 9 Parents' Information Evening at 7.00pm
- Thursday 19th September - Open Evening (school closes early at 12.30pm and school buses are arranged for this time)
- Thursday 17th October - Year 7 'Settling In' Tutor Consultation evening
- Monday 28th October INSET Day (school closed to students)

If you have any questions or queries regarding any of the information within this letter, please do not hesitate to contact us at school on enquiries@tarletonacademy.org . The staff at Tarleton Academy are very much looking forward to another successful academic year and in the meantime we hope you and your families have a great summer!

Yours sincerely,

M Cunniffe

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Head of School