



4th February 2019

Dear Parents,

A Few Reminders and Upcoming Calendar Dates

It has been a busy but extremely positive start to 2019 at Tarleton Academy and it has been great to see the students and staff refreshed and refocused for the new term. As we are now into the last two weeks of the half-term, it is important that we maintain that positive momentum right the way through the academic year and below we have raised a few points to help us achieve this aim.

Uniform and Appearance:

We are very proud of the fact that the vast majority of our students continue to wear their school uniform correctly and with pride. However, we are dealing with an increase in students wearing outdoor coats that do not fit the school policy and some students are wearing skirts of an incorrect length. Please remember that skirts are required to be knee length.

A summary of our main uniform expectations are shown 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
- 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)

Equipment:

It is important that students arrive at school each day with the minimum expected pieces of equipment to allow them to access lessons and learning. Our minimum expectation is that students have the following items 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)

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In Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 the vast majority of our students have their own Chromebook and they must ensure that their Chromebooks are brought to school on a daily basis, fully charged and with a set of basic headphones for use in lessons. Students that are loaning Chromebooks must ensure that they collect them on a daily basis and return them at the end of each day.

Mobile Phones & Smart Watches:

There is no doubt that a large number of students will have received new pieces of 'tech' as Christmas presents; including mobile phones, tablets or smart watches, so it is important that they are fully aware of the points below:

- Students are not allowed to use unauthorised mobile devices (including smart watches) and headphones on the school site (headphones can be used with Chromebooks when under the direction of the teacher)
- Any student seen with unauthorised mobile devices or headphones (including mobile phones, iPods, tablets, smart watches) will have the item confiscated without any prior warning. To ensure that we operate in a fair and consistent way the Academy takes a zero tolerance approach to this principle.

The above points are crucial to help us ensure that students are focused on learning within the classroom environment and that these items are not lost or damaged within school.

Key Dates for the term

Key dates from the school calendar for the remainder of term are detailed below:

- Thursday 7th February – 4pm-7pm – Year 9 Subject Consultation Evening
- Wednesday 13th February - 8.45am to 3.15pm – Review Day (*students attend in full uniform for appointments only*)
- Friday 15th February – Year 9 Immunisations
- Friday 15th February – Finish at 3.15pm for the half-term holiday.
- Thursday 28th February – 6pm to 8pm – Year 9 Options Evening
- Thursday 7th March – 4pm to 7pm – Year 11 Subject Consultation Evening
- Thursday 14th March – PSCE Day 4
- Thursday 21st March – 4pm-7pm – Year 7 Subject Consultation Evening
- Monday 25th March to Friday 5th April - Year 11 Practice Examinations 2
- Friday 5th April – Finish at 12.30pm for the end of term holiday. School buses are booked for this time.

This week we are focusing on 'Children's Mental Health Awareness' during tutor times and assemblies and we will send out further information that may be useful for students and parents shortly, as well as adding key information to our website www.tarletonacademy.org.

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Mrs. L. A. Gwinnett, Executive Headteacher Tarleton Academy, Hesketh Lane, Tarleton, Preston, Lancashire PR4 6AQ
General Office: (01772) 812644 Email: enquiries@tarletonacademy.org www.tarletonacademy.org

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If you have any questions or queries regarding any of the information within this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me at school. We are very much looking forward to finishing the half-term in the same manner in which we began the New Year – smartly, with energy and a determined focus!

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

M Cunniffe

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Head of School

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