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September 2022

Dear Parents, Carers

I would like to thank you all for your support in ensuring the smooth start to the Sixth Form here at NLS for 2022-23 – students have settled in wonderfully well and been a credit to the school, themselves and you, their parents and carers.

Naturally, the excitement of the week has been overshadowed by the sad news about the passing of Queen Elizabeth. I would reiterate here what I have said in this week's assemblies: wellbeing and student happiness is at the core of our provision so students should feel able to come and speak with a member of staff about anything that might be upsetting or unsettling to them – including this sad news.

Students should always see our door as an open one and, likewise, I would like you to feel always able to make contact with either myself or my colleagues in the Sixth Form Leadership Team:

- Assistant Head of Sixth Form (Y12) Mr Piper: jpiper@northleamington.co.uk
- Assistant Head of Sixth Form (Y13) Mr Schofield: mschofield@northleamington.co.uk
- Senior Assistant Headteacher/Head of Sixth Form Mr Taylor: staylor@northleamington.co.uk

As said above, the core of our provision is to ensure happiness: we believe that when students feel safe, happy and confident then they will be successful in their academic endeavours. The results for this last academic year testify to the success of both our pastoral and academic provision where headlines for the outgoing Y13 students include:

- An average grade of B+ in each of their 3 subjects
- Securing the 4th highest grades in the local area for all providers whether state or private – and the highest of the non-selective schools
- Indicative national results suggesting we are once more in the very top percentiles for academic progress (how far we move on students from their starting points)
- 97% of university applicants securing their preferred institution (a record for NLS)
- All students securing a positive destination after study here – including university, employment and prestigious apprenticeships.

Alongside this, the GCSE results for our incoming cohort of Y12 (as well as the results from Progression Exams for the new Y13) have been terrific. Given the context of such massive disruption to our lives over the past few years, I am sure you (like we) are exceptionally impressed with the resilience and dedication of your children.

To help ensure the ongoing success of our Sixth Form, if we can continue to work together to reiterate these expectations it would be greatly appreciated:

- Students arrive on time each day for 08:45 (irrespective of whether they have a lesson period 1)
- Students register at Reception (or using the QR codes on the Study Room doors) if they do not have a lesson period 1
- Students undertake 6 hours of study each subject per week in addition to classroom time
- Students attend their enrichment provision (Weds) and fortnightly PSHE lesson as a required part of their curriculum experience
- Students also attend Tutor Time Mon, Tues, Thurs (Y12) and Mon-Thurs (Y13)
- Students adhere to the Dress Code and understand that they may be sent home to change if it is infringed (not a preferred course of action taken lightly but invoked if needed to support policy and standards)
- Absence: if unplanned (e.g. illness) parents email the sixth-form email address by 8.30am at the latest on the day and each subsequent day or phone the school; if planned absence, parents make a request (e.g for a doctor's appointment) in advance where possible and outside of school time; if a student becomes unwell in the day, a parent/carer comes and collects or gives permission for students getting home independently – students should come and talk to the Sixth Form Team before leaving the site; no driving lessons should be booked during school time
- We will use the Rewards scheme and associated incentives (such as our prize draw) to recognise all the excellent efforts of our students but we will also make use of the school detention system in the rare instances a student is persistently late or not demonstrating the expected standard of self-application in their studies.

Hopefully, parents and carers understand our reasoning: some students in the Sixth Form need the support of clear, transparent expectations but all students are role models for our younger students.

Given how wonderfully successful your children have been thus far, the above may seem essentially moot – but worth sharing nonetheless.

To finish, I would like to thank you once more for all your support in ensuring a great start to the new academic year. It's been a pleasure meeting your children or seeing them again after the summer and I look forward to meeting you or seeing you again in the near future.

With the latter in mind, please can the parents and carers of Y12 students pencil in to diaries October 10th as we will be arranging a Meet the Tutor Evening.

As ever, please do make contact should you feel the need.

I hope you have a restful and pleasant weekend.

Yours faithfully,



Steven Taylor
Senior Assistant Head-teacher (inc. Head of Sixth Form)