



16 June 2023

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Dear Parents and Carers

I hope this finds you well. I want to start today congratulating our students sitting terminal examinations this year, the vast majority of Year 11 students finish their exam season later today. Early feedback has been positive. Whilst of course a challenging experience, students have been pleased with their efforts and felt well prepared for what is now a much more protracted exam season than ever before. Student conduct, effort and their ability to manage the pressures of this time has been brilliant and we are so proud of each and every one of them. For a few Year 11's and our Year 13's, exams continue into next week where I continue to wish you all the best of luck.

At this time of year we are looking forward to well-earned celebration and reward events acknowledging students' achievements – starting next Thursday for those who have been invited to the whole school awards evening. Further congratulations to students who completed their DofE expeditions last weekend and students who will return from the French visit later today. It continues to be a school driver to support as many wider opportunities as possible to enrich the curriculum and best support developing well rounded students.

In addition to reviewing students' current yearly progress we are also mindful of the preparation work required to hit the ground running so to speak in September on their next phase here at NLS. That starts with all those currently in Year 6 who we are welcoming through both our standard and enhanced transition packages – our new Year 7 is again oversubscribed with a current waiting list of over 80 students who are still awaiting a place at our excellent school.

### **Lunchtime Arrangements from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June**

A reminder we begin our preparation of existing students progressing into the next academic year. An important part of this will be to amend our lunchtime rotations for students which will accustom each year group with the rotations which will remain in place for September. This will not affect your child's timetabled lessons and students have been briefed about the changes via their Form Tutors.

Lunchtime timings are below:

- 12.20 to 12.50: Years 8, 10 and 12
- 13.20 to 13.50: Years 7 and 9

### **Year 10 & 12 progression exams**

Next week students will receive personalised timetables ahead of the progression exams starting Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June. Year group communications with full details were sent last Friday. Please see the website for further detail and timetable [here](#)

### **School Uniform:**

As we move into the final half term I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents and carers about our previous messages about our uniform policy in readiness for students' return to school in September. Wearing school uniform is an integral part of our school community in promoting positive

attitudes as well as high standards and this will be reinforced with students over the remaining weeks. In September this will be implemented in line with our Behaviour and Engagement Policy. To this end, please be reminded of our expectations of student dress code, which is outlined in our Uniform Policy, available on the Uniform section of our website, inclusive of a helpful visual aid [here](#)

Students will be reminded about the uniform expectations this term through tutor messages and assemblies and if students need to improve areas of their uniform we will use this half term to give them and parents/carers sufficient time to do this prior to September.

### **Where can parents and carers buy uniform?**

Stitchtech supply items of NLS branded uniform. They also supply separate logos which can be attached to skirts and blazers if purchased elsewhere. Whilst parents are entitled to source their child's uniform from different suppliers, our uniform supplier Stitchtech <https://www.stitchtech.co.uk/> have a variety of waist sizes whilst maintaining the required fit for blazers and length of skirts. We also have a wide range of new and second hand uniform items available to collect from school. If parents would like to request items they can request items from [nls@northleamington.co.uk](mailto:nls@northleamington.co.uk)

### **Do you have any unwanted school uniform items which could be donated to us?**

We would welcome donation items of unwanted uniform items to support our uniform stocks. This has become an ever more used resource of late given the cost of living pressures so if you do have unwanted items please do send them into school. Parents, carers or students are invited to drop this into the Main Reception area where there are uniform 'bins' for us to collect and launder items which can be used to support students.

To summarise our uniform expectations:

#### **School footwear: guidance**

- Plain Black leather shoes
- "Plain" is defined as being without embellishment, other colours or sports logos
- Must not be boots, canvass shoes, pumps, trainers high top shoes, open toes, sling backs or high heels

To support with cost incurred by parents, if students are moving into **Year 11** and have existing footwear items which are not compliant with these requirements, students will not be reprimanded as long as their shoes are leather and black. For all other students in Years 7-10, this criteria will be non-negotiable unless there is a medical or Special Educational Need exemption agreed with the school.

Should you have any specific enquires please do contact your child's Year Leader.

Have a great weekend.

Mike Lowdell  
Head Teacher