

Dear Parent/Carer,

### **Polite Reminder - Uniform Expectations**

Since progressing into March, we have noticed that the standard of uniform has slipped for some pupils and would like to work together to rectify it as soon as possible. All pupils must wear:

- A school blazer
- A school jumper
- A white shirt
- Charcoal grey trousers/BHA grey, pleated tartan skirt
- Black smart school shoes

Students should not have/wear:

- Facial piercings or jewellery
- Non uniform jumpers under blazers
- Coats inside the school building
- Unnatural hair colours or tinsel in hair
- Nail varnish
- Casual footwear including any trainers or canvas shoes
- Socks over the top of black tights or trousers

We would appreciate your support in ensuring your child has all of the essential items. If a pupil arrives in incorrect uniform, or without an item of uniform, uniform will be made available for them to wear. Refusal to comply with the uniform will result in a sanction; this will initially be a lunch time detention but pupils will also accrue negative behaviour points each time they refuse to comply with uniform requests. We want the high expectations of our uniform to mirror those that we have of behaviour in and around school. We expect students to wear it with pride, not only around site, but as they represent us in the wider community.

We are keen to work with parents regarding our uniform, if you are interested in joining our uniform working party please contact Mrs Owen via the main office expressing your interest in joining this group.

### **Y9 Enterprise Day**

This week, Y9 participated in Enterprise Day, which was a full school day where they learnt a lot about the world of business giving them a flavour of what it is like to be an entrepreneur. This was part of the National Careers Challenge, organised by Natwest looking for young people with bright ideas from schools across the country.

Pupils worked in teams to come up with different issues that affect teenagers, their family, their school life and their community, alongside unique solutions that could solve each one. All Enterprise groups had to create a logo, advert, press release, social media campaign and then present to a panel of judges in front of the whole year group. Y9 really enjoyed the event and have definitely taken away lots of LORIC skills from taking part. Thank you to Mrs Orlando and Miss Walker for organising the event, and thank you for the people from the National Careers Challenge for coming in!

### **Principal Lunches**

Pupils from every year group have been invited to eat a lunch with myself this week to recognise them demonstrating one of our school values and making a valuable contribution to school life. Pupils were nominated by staff for a variety of different reasons, such as being excellent pupil role models, helping out at school events, having an excellent attitudes towards their learning, being a member of the pupil council or making a change and helping within the local community. Well done to all the pupils who were nominated. I was very impressed with the values and leadership qualities these pupils showed, alongside their interesting stories over lunch.

### **Mobile Phones**

There has been lots of discussion around the 'New mobile phone' school guidance issued on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024 from the Government that backs headteachers in prohibiting the use of mobile phones throughout the school day, including at break times. I would like to advise that our 'Mobile Phone Policy' will not change as our policy is fully in line with the new guidance.

### **Toilets**

Please see attached a separate letter regarding toilet access in school.

### **Parent Governor Vacancy**

We are recruiting for a new parent governor as one of our current parent governors is resigning this summer. We would like to thank Mr Chatzigeorgiou for his commitment and support of the academy during his term as a parent governor.

Information on how to apply for this role is attached. **Completed 'expressions of interest' forms should be returned to: Principal's Office at the Birches Head Academy or emailed to Mrs J Bracegirdle at [jbracegirdle@bircheshead.org.uk](mailto:jbracegirdle@bircheshead.org.uk) by Monday 18 March at 12 noon.**

### **Dates to remember**

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March – Y7 Ambition Day  
Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> – World Book Day  
Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> – Y9 Options Evening  
Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> – Y9 & 10 Future Me Festival

Please contact us if you need this information in any other language or format if you have any questions. You can contact the office by email on [info@bircheshead.org.uk](mailto:info@bircheshead.org.uk).

Yours Sincerely



Ms K Dixon  
Principal