

26th May 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the final half term of this academic year, we wanted to recognise and celebrate the achievements of our students over the past few months.

Across all year groups, our PE department has enjoyed many victories, including successes in competitions against local schools, as well as successes on a larger scale, most recently at the district Athletics. This of course comes after an enjoyable trip to Austria on our annual Ski Trip at Easter. Students taking part in extracurricular clubs, for example our Eco Warriors, CREST Scientists and newly-formed Culture Council, have also played an active role when it comes to promoting important issues within our school. We were blown away by outstanding performances in our Performing Arts Festival, and very much look forward to our summer show, The Wizard of Oz, in a matter of weeks. In exciting news, in recent weeks we have established a new team of Prefects and Senior Prefects, and we are pleased to announce Bevan Adams and Kira Monford as our new Head Prefects. We have been exceptionally proud of our Year 11 and Year 13 students who, in the last two weeks, began sitting their final summer examinations after much hard work. We also look forward to "going international" this half term holiday, and we wish the students attending our France trip, Germany trip and New York trip much fun on their adventures.

We also wanted to take this opportunity to reinforce our high expectations with regards to uniform, attendance and punctuality, which we uphold until the very end of the academic year.

### Uniform and Equipment

The wearing of full school uniform is compulsory for all school sessions. This includes:

- BLACK BLAZER with APPLETON BADGE
- APPLETON TIE
- PLAIN WHITE SHIRT that is buttoned up to the neck and tucked in at the waist
- PLAIN BLACK, FORMAL TROUSERS. Not permitted: Jeans, cropped trousers, stretchy, jersey or lycra/skinny-fit trousers, jeggings or leggings, brushed cotton/chino style trousers.

OR

- FORMAL BLACK PLEATED SKIRT of reasonable length, material and style - please note that stretchy, jersey, Lycra or tube style skirts are not permitted.
- PLAIN BLACK/WHITE ANKLE SOCKS OR PLAIN BLACK OR NATURAL TIGHTS. **Please note that knee length socks are NOT permitted.**
- FORMAL PRACTICAL BLACK LEATHER SHOES (or faux leather alternative) which must have a heel and black laces (where applicable). Must not have any sports brands/emblems/logos. Canvas shoes, flat sole style shoes, trainers, high heels or boots are NOT permitted.
- Hoodies may be worn outside during break time and lunch time but are not allowed in the school building; a black v-neck jumper is permitted.
- Excessive make-up is inappropriate; students must not wear false eyelashes, nail polish or acrylic nails. Students are not allowed to wear bracelets, nose studs or any other piercing. Students are allowed one ring of sensible size, a watch and one stud earring in each ear.
- Students are expected to be well-equipped for school; this means bringing with them a pen, pencil, ruler, rubber and reading book, as well as any specialist equipment or kit needed for practical lessons (such as DT and PE).

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You can find more information about our uniform policy, as well as sanctions for breaches of this policy, on our school website. <https://www.theappletonschool.org/parents/uniform-and-equipment>

### **Attendance and Punctuality**

We recognise how important good attendance is when it comes to ensuring that every child has the best possible opportunities to succeed at school. If your child is unwell and unable to attend school, it is expected that parents/carers contact the school via the Edulink app, via email ([absence@theappletonschool.org](mailto:absence@theappletonschool.org)) or via telephone (01268 794215 extension 225).

Good timekeeping is a vital life skill which will help children as they progress through their school life and out into the wider world. Pupils who arrive late can also miss important work and vital messages from their teachers. We promote good time keeping by:

- Ringing a “warning bell” 5 minutes before Form Time begins as a prompt so that students know to begin making their way to their Form Tutors for morning registration.
- Introducing a “warning bell” 2 minutes before the end of morning break time so that students have time to walk to their next lesson.
- Ringing a “warning bell” 5 minutes before the end of lunch so that students can begin making their way to their period 5 lesson.

As such, there is no reason why a student should be late to their lessons (please note that any student who has been asked by a teacher to wait behind is issued with a pass).

We want to congratulate the vast majority of our students who have an excellent record when it comes to punctuality, but also inform parents that we will be reintroducing our centralised one hour detentions for students who are more than 5 minutes late to their lessons. There will be more information about this disseminated during form time and in assemblies, and this will come into effect from Monday 5th June.

We want to thank you for your continued support, and congratulate your children on a successful half term.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs. R. Levey  
Assistant Headteacher