

West Derby School

364 West Derby Road, Liverpool. L13 7HQ tel: 0151 235 1300 fax: 0151 259 4711
email: admin@westderbyschool.co.uk web: www.westderbyschool.co.uk
Headteacher: Mrs S Graham



We Deliver Success

6th July 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian

I am writing to you towards the end of another very busy year to share some updates with you.

Staff are continuing to work hard to ensure that our students achieve their very best. We already know that KS3 performance has improved dramatically this year and we have every confidence that KS4 and KS5 exam results will deliver the same success in the summer. The results are testimony to the excellent relationships that we have between pupils, staff and parents, helping to ensure that we provide the best education and life opportunities we can for all. I would like to take this opportunity to thank **all** of the staff, teachers and non-teachers alike, for their consistent efforts and commitment to the boys which ensures that their academic and emotional wellbeing is provided for at all times.

We continue to strive for excellent attendance, which the Local Authority now intends to set at 100%. As a result, all term time holidays will be unauthorised as they clearly are detrimental to the boys' progress. Our attendance at West Derby is one of the highest in the city and we would ask you to keep absences to only the most unavoidable circumstances.

As you know, at West Derby we pride ourselves on the standard of the boys' uniform and I would like to thank parents for their ongoing support with this. There have been no changes to the uniform, so in September we will look forward to the boys returning to school wearing their full school uniform including a blazer and black shoes (no training shoes allowed). Please be aware that some brands advertise their trainer style shoes as school shoes, for example, Hugo Boss, Bamboos etc. Our boys do know by now what is acceptable and what is not!

On another note, you will be aware of the fashion for some of the boys to wear their hair covering their eyes and faces. In accordance with our health and safety obligations and in the interests of managing risk, we are requesting that boys' hair does not cover their eyes during lessons. In the case of boys with long fringes this can be achieved either through the use of a hairband or clip. In any case, we would also, of course, love to see our boys' beautiful faces in totality! I am sure that the fashion will change again soon but would ask, in the meantime, that you give us your support in this matter, as you have done with our uniform.

In the cases of boys with long hair, health and safety is of particular importance in managing risk during practical subjects. As is the case now, boys who have long hair styles are asked to tie their hair back or use hair nets during catering lessons, Design and Technology etc.

The school does not require the pupils to cut their hair in any prescriptive way, and we have not requested them to do so. Essentially hair must be neat and tidy and without extremes of colour and style.

Your son should attend school with a bag, pencil case, pen, pencil and ruler. Failure to have these items causes unnecessary disruption in the classroom. We would be grateful if you could ensure that your son comes to school with this equipment at all times.



Important dates for your diary:

Wednesday 19th July 2017: School closes for the summer at lunchtime; any boys who wish to stay for a school lunch (sandwich) may still do so.

Thursday 17th August 2017: A Level Results Day

Thursday 24th August 2017: GCSE Results Day

I would also like to take the opportunity to inform you of next year's term dates:

Monday 4th September 2017:	Inset Day – school closed to pupils except Year 12 pupils for induction
Tuesday 5th September 2017:	All pupils return to school
Friday 20th October 2016:	Inset Day – school closed to pupils
Autumn Half Term:	Monday 23 rd – Friday 27 th October 2017**
Thursday 21st December:	School closes for Christmas Holidays
Monday 8th January:	School reopens for pupils and staff
Spring Half Term:	Monday 12 th – Friday 16 th February 2018
Friday 23rd March 2018:	School closes for Easter Holidays**
Monday 9th April 2018:	School reopens for pupils and staff
May Day:	Monday 7 th May 2018
Summer Half Term:	Monday 28 th May – Friday 1 st June 2018**
Thursday 19th July 2018:	School closes for Summer Holidays

Please note Year 11 will have revision opportunities during holidays **.

Finally, thank you for your continued support. On behalf of all the staff and governors at West Derby School, I wish you all a relaxing and restful summer holiday.

Yours faithfully



S Graham
Headteacher