

3rd September 2024



**BRAMHALL
HIGH SCHOOL**

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you and your families were able to have a restful summer break and may I take this opportunity to formally welcome all the new parents and carers of our Year 7 into the Bramhall High School community. On Wednesday, we will be welcoming some 270 new Year 7 students and look forward to seeing them grow into our school over the forthcoming months.

I would like to take this opportunity to inform you about some important pieces of information.

Return to School Information

A polite reminder that school reopens on Wednesday 4th September. As in previous years, Year 7 will start at 8.30am and Years 8 to 11 arriving on site for a 10am start. Lessons will begin at 12.20pm. On Thursday 5th September all students are required to be in school for 8.25am and must be in their registration rooms for an 8.30am start.

Further to my communication during the summer break, we continue to experience some network difficulties which are resulting in some alterations to our day-to-day procedures and practices that students will notice when they return. A number of these changes are very much a short-term measure, and I will keep you informed of changes as we move through the term. These changes are:

- 1) For Wednesday 4th, Thursday 5th and Friday 6th we are asking students to attend school with a packed lunch and any breaktime snacks they wish to consume. We will of course provide food for students eligible for free school meals.
- 2) Students will be issued with a planner/diary during their first registration. The planner will allow students to record homework and other key elements of school life. I would ask all parents and carers to check daily and sign these planners on a weekly basis and take time to read and familiarise yourself with the Home-School agreement which is printed in them.
- 3) We will also be introducing a ten-minute afternoon registration period into our school day. This will not change our overall finishing time.

RAAC update

I am pleased to report that when students return, we will have back in use our Library and Refectory area. There will also be two classrooms which are being changed over to art rooms. Extensive work has begun on our music and drama areas and I am confident these will be brought back into use during the Autumn Term. Please could parents and carers please remind students arriving by bicycle tomorrow that they are stored on the yard area adjacent to the new DT block at the back of school.



**Attendance**

As we begin the new academic year, I would like to inform you of an important update regarding pupil attendance at Bramhall High School. In accordance with Government guidelines, and to ensure our pupils receive the best possible education, penalty notice fines will be issued for unauthorised absences during term time, persistent absences, and persistent lateness to school.

Term-Time Leave

Any request for leave during the school term must be submitted in advance to our Attendance Office. Term-time leave will not be authorised unless evidence of exceptional circumstances is provided and a penalty notice fine may be issued.

Regular Non-Attendance (including lateness after registers have closed)

Attending school every day is crucial for your child's academic success. Bramhall seeks to support children and families as fully as possible and we understand there may be circumstances out of your control affecting your child's ability to attend school regularly. If you are facing difficulties, we encourage you to contact your child's Head of Year to discuss the many avenues of support we can offer. Where there is no valid reason for persistent absence, and where attendance does not improve within a required monitoring period, a penalty notice fine will be issued.

Fines

The fines for unauthorised term time leave are as follows:

1st offence

- £80 per parent per child, if paid within 21 days
- £160 per parent per child, if paid after 21 days

2nd offence

- £160

3rd offence

- Application for prosecution submitted to court where the outcome could be a fine of £2,500.

**Pupil Premium**

The Pupil Premium is additional funding given to schools so that they can support their disadvantaged pupils and close the attainment gap between them and their peers. Pupil Premium is allocated to schools to work with students who have been registered for free school meals at any point in the last six years. Schools also receive funding for children who have been looked after continuously for more than six months, and children of service personnel. Not only will your child receive free school meals, but our school will also receive additional funding to support your child with their education.

To check if you are eligible for free school meals click [Apply for free school meals - Stockport Council](#)

If you have any further questions about this then please contact Mrs K Thorpe via email kthorpe@bramhallhigh.stockport.sch.uk

I will write again at the end of this week to update parents and carers about how the beginning of term has gone.

Warm regards

Paul Williams
Headteacher