

18 July 2024

To: Parent/Carer – Year 8

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: End of Year 8

As we approach the end of the academic year and look towards a fresh start in September 2024, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on what has been a year of mixed emotions for the cohort.

In life, some change is inevitable, and we have said goodbye to some students returning overseas, welcoming others joining us from other schools, and the students have also had to navigate the loss of a friend and classmate. The resilience they have shown has been incredible and I am in awe of how strong this year group are and how they do their very best to support one another; I know Jasmine is greatly missed by so many, including myself and we will continue to remember her and the positivity she brought.

Whilst there have been emotional challenges, there have also been so many successes; we have had a Year 8 student winning the Victor Ludorum trophy on sports day – well done Imogen! There has been some excellent amateur dramatics on show via Taverham High School's take on Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' – special mention to Millie, Amelia, Roisin, Effie and Maisie! As well as sports success for our talented year group outside of school – Niamh and Oli absolutely smashing it in their respective fields!

September 2024 will bring the start of Year 9, GCSE option choices in the Spring term, and in the Summer, a residential trip to Hautbois House Activity Centre. There is a lot to look forward to and I am excited for what this upcoming academic year has in store.

Ahead of the new school year, I wanted to give you a reminder of the uniform guidelines, as well as behaviour expectations. On your child/ward's return to school in September 2024 they will notice that staff will be checking uniform on the school gates and students not in the correct uniform will be asked to return home to change into the correct uniform.

All students are required to follow the uniform expectations at Taverham High School and by ensuring the standards of uniform are upheld across the school we hope our students will develop pride in all they do, which will maximise their progress throughout their time at the school.

A reminder of the uniform guidelines is shown on the following page.

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Healthy School

SCHOOL UNIFORM

- **Trousers**
Should be plain black, tailored trousers. They may be slim fit, if this is a preference, but must not be leggings. They cannot be jeans, track suit bottoms, have studded pockets or be 'figure hugging'. Please be aware that some shops are pushing legging style trousers with pockets and classifying these as school trousers. They are not acceptable in our school.
- **Shoes**
Must be plain black and polishable. If you are not sure, please ask.
- **Ties**
Should be worn properly, with seven stripes visible and the knot reaching the collar. We appreciate that not everyone is used to wearing or tying ties, but you can follow tutorial videos such as this one: [How to tie a tie - Quick and Easy \(youtube.com\)](#) to help, or your child/ward's form tutor can help them.
- **Shirts**
Regardless of style or length shirts must be tucked in at all times.
- **Piercings**
Must be simple studs (*students wearing hoops, or any other type of piercing will be asked to remove them*). Additionally, all students must be able to take part in the full curriculum. This means that, for example, piercings must be removeable for PE lessons. Please therefore ensure that your child/ward only has piercings at times when there is sufficient healing time so they can be taken out for lessons. This is likely to be the start of the Summer holiday.
- **Hoodies**
These are not acceptable items of outerwear in our school. Please support us by ensuring your child/ward has an appropriate coat if they are cold. Do not let them come to school in a hoodie.

If, for whatever reason, your child/ward does not have the proper uniform, please ensure they have a signed note explaining why and when this will be corrected. Any exceptions will not be accepted for longer than one week.

If your child/ward has a permanent exemption, it would be really helpful if this was accompanied by medical evidence. However, if this is not possible, please contact me in the first week of term to discuss this and your child/ward may be issued with an exception card which they should expect to politely produce each time they are questioned about their uniform. This applies to toilet cards as well, although these will all need medical evidence to support them.

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Should you be facing financial hardship and your child/ward is entitled to a free school meal, please contact Mr Day via email: jr.day@taverhamhigh.org to request assistance with the cost of the uniform. If your child/ward is not receiving free school meals but you are concerned about any aspect of the uniform, please email me on: v.phillips@taverhamhigh.org so that I can support you with this matter.

In regard to student behaviour, our guidelines and expectations can be found in the school's behaviour policy.

Students should rise to the school's high expectations, follow the school rules, take responsibility for their own behaviour but also to take care of the needs of others. Students are made fully aware of the school expectations, policy and procedures. Students are also encouraged to take responsibility for their social and learning environments making them both safe and enjoyable by reporting all undesirable behaviour and are expected to report bullying whenever they see it.

By sending your child/ward to Taverham High School you agree that they will:

- **Attend school regularly.**
- **Arrive on time and in full, correct school uniform.**
- **Bring the equipment they need every day.**
- **Concentrate and actively participate in lessons, allowing and supporting others to learn.**
- **Be polite, kind and helpful to all members of the school and wider community, both face to face and through social media, and upholding the high expectations we have for them.**

Thank you in advance for your support and cooperation in ensuring that your child/ward is in correct school uniform for September 2024 with a positive mind set towards their learning. I wish you all a very happy Summer holiday.

Yours faithfully



Miss V Phillips
Head of Year 8