



Thursday, 16 July 2020

End-of-Year Letter

Dear Parents/Guardians

Assalamu alaikum / Peace be with you

Thank you for attending our recent online live Parent Induction event. I hope you found the presentations during the live event and information pack useful. I also hope that your daughter had a good online meeting with her form and learning co-ordinator and is excited about the start of her secondary school experience in September.

I would also like to take this opportunity to provide you with important information for the new academic year to ensure that all parents and pupils are well prepared for the start of term.

Please take the time to read the important information below.

School Opening for the new Academic Year

The Government has announced that all students will return to school full-time from September onwards.

- **The start of Term for Year 7 Pupils will be Wednesday 2nd September**
- **The start of Term for Year 11 Pupils will be Wednesday 2nd September**
- **Pupils in Years 8, 9 and 10 will return to school on Thursday 3rd September**

The Government has released guidance to schools on precautions that should be taken to keep everyone safe and well. **We will write to you in August with details on how your daughter will return to school.**

Term Dates 2020-2021, Attendance & Holidays During Term Time

Term 1 dates

- **Mid-term closure- Monday 26th October-Friday 30th October 2020**
- **End of Autumn Term- Monday 21st December 2020**
- **Christmas Holiday- Tuesday 22nd December- Friday 1st January 2021**

Please find enclosed the full-term dates for the new academic year.

It is very important that students attend school fully. Last year, many students achieved attendance of 99% or higher - missing no more than 1 day from school during the year. Each year, students with the worst attendance make less progress and achieve lower grades in their studies. Therefore, we will insist



that students attend school fully and we will visit homes of students with poor attendance alongside the support from the Education Welfare Officer from the Local Authority.

As you know, **the school is not allowed to authorise any trips abroad during term time unless there are exceptional (emergency) circumstances for the student concerned.** Thank you for your support with this.

School Uniform

The uniform and appearance of our students reflects our ethos and commitment to the highest standards. Whenever the school uniform is worn, it must be complete and not mixed with non-uniform clothing. Parents should contact our new School Uniform retailer (please see details below) in good time over the summer to ensure all items are purchased in time for the start of term.

Visit <https://www.stevensons.co.uk/my-account/Register> and register a new account with your email address.

Parent Pay & School Lunches

School Meals are provided by our in-house catering company, Chartwells, who offer a break and lunch service. The price per day of a set meal is £2.40 as well as individually priced items to purchase. Parents will need to register to use our cashless payment system ParentPay. We are unfortunately unable to accept any cash payments for school meals. Do ensure your ParentPay account at www.parentpay.co.uk is sufficiently funded and ready for use on the first day in school, alternatively you will have prepared a healthy pack lunch.

Identity cards will be issued at the start of term that will enable your daughter to purchase a meal if your ParentPay account has sufficient funds available.

Free School Meals and Pupil Premium Guarantee

Students may be entitled to 'free school meals' if their parents or guardians receive low-income benefits.

This year, the school will make a '**Pupil Premium Guarantee**'. Any student who has registered successfully for 'free school meals will receive:

- Free textbooks and stationery sold at the school
- Subsidised trips and outdoor educational visits upon request made by letter to the Principal
- A subsidy for school uniform up to £100 will be given, for new students in Year 7 only
- students will also have a guaranteed place on any after-school intervention class or enrichment club that they wish to attend

You will be able to claim free school meals for your child if you receive one of the following benefits:



- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- Income Support
- Income based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

To check your eligibility you will need to access Slough Borough Council's online form (link below) or speak to the school office for assistance.

<https://www.slough.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/free-school-meals.aspx>

Safety on the Internet

Each year, a small number of our students use the internet at home in an unsafe or harmful way.

As a result, it is possible for students to:

- Access pornography or graphic violence
- Engage in harmful conversations with adults pretending to be a teenager
- Send and receive inappropriate images and videos
- Be very tired in school after being on the internet for long periods during the night

Often, this is because parents:

- Have bought their daughter a mobile phone, i-pad or laptop before they were responsible enough to understand the risks
- Have not taken steps to ensure that the internet is safe and adequate filters are in place
- Have allowed their daughter to use her device unsupervised, often throughout the night
- Have not understood that an i-pad or a laptop can be used in the same way at home as a mobile phone (to make calls, access websites and exchange images and videos)
- Have allowed their daughter to use social networking sites (such as Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat) even though they are below the minimum age for these platforms

This is neglectful and puts our daughters and others at risk of great and lasting harm.

It is the responsibility of parents to ensure that they are aware of how their daughter uses the internet (and social networking) at home – and that she uses it in a safe manner. Please:

- Discuss the importance of safer internet use with your daughter
- Take steps to make your daughter safer on the internet, by:
 - Setting filters to block harmful content
 - Making sure that your daughter does not have any devices in her bedroom overnight
 - Only allowing your daughter to use the internet whilst under supervision
 - Going through the rules about when and how your daughter may use the internet



- Thinking carefully whether your daughter is mature enough to have a device of her own
- Checking if your daughter is using social networking sites for which she is not yet old enough
- Contacting the school if you need advice and support in making the internet at home safer

Expectations of Conduct & Attendance

Establishing and maintaining the highest standards of conduct and attendance is vital to the success of every pupil and integral to our vision and values as a school. In our Ofsted inspection in May 2018 inspectors described the conduct of pupils as 'impeccable' and their behaviour as 'exemplary.'

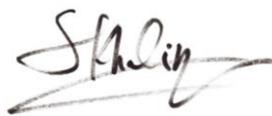
I would be most grateful if you could reinforce with your daughter the importance of respecting our school rules and values in relation to her conduct, attitude to learning, attendance and punctuality as outlined in the Parent Handbook. In particular, we require parents support in ensuring pupils arrive to school on time and arranging any medical appointments and holidays outside of term time and school hours.

I would like to thank you for the faith you have shown in the school and the support that you have demonstrated during our induction process in this unprecedented time. We look forward to working with you in partnership to provide a truly outstanding education for your daughter. Please do complete the summer work sent for your daughter, to ensure a smooth start to your daughters learning in September.

I wish you a safe and lovely break during the summer. I would also ask for your prayers for the school and that the Almighty protects each of our daughters and everyone who works tirelessly on their behalf.

Aameen.

Yours Sincerely,



Sajid Khaliq
Principal

Enclosed: School Term Dates & Holidays 2020-2021

SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES 2020 - 2021

(All dates are inclusive)

AUTUMN TERM 2020

Staff Training Day - 1	Tuesday 1 st September 2020
Re-open (for students) on	Wednesday 2 nd September 2020
Mid Term Closure	Monday 26 th October - Friday 30 th October 2020
Closure after school on	Monday 21 st December 2020
Christmas Holiday	Tuesday 22 nd December – Friday 1 st January 2021
Number of openings	74

SPRING TERM 2021

Staff Training Day - 2	Monday 4 th January 2021
Re-open (for students) on	Tuesday 5 th January 2021
Mid Term Closure	Monday 15 th February - Friday 19 th February 2021
Closure after school on	Thursday 1 st April 2021
Easter Holiday	Friday 2 nd April 2021 – Thursday 15 th April 2021
Number of openings	58

SUMMER TERM 2021

Re-open on	Friday 16 th April 2021
May Day Closure	Monday 3 rd May 2021
'Eid ul Fitr 1442 * holiday	Thursday 13 th May and Friday 14 th May 2021 *
Mid Term Closure	Monday 31 st May - Friday 4 th June 2021
Closure after school on	Friday 16 th July 2021
('Eid ul Adha 1442)	(Tuesday 20 th July 2021)
Number of openings	58
TOTAL NUMBER OF OPENINGS	190

Staff Insets - two full days and six twilight sessions

* Please note – 'Eid holidays may be revised slightly depending upon sighting of the new moon
Eden Girls' School, Slough – final