



18 March 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

We would like to take this opportunity to extend our thanks to the parents and carers who were able to attend the Parent Meetings on Wednesday, 16 and Thursday, 17 March 2022 where we shared with you the vision for a vibrant and high achieving academy. The meeting enabled us to let you know what we have planned for the future of your academy and provided you with an opportunity to ask questions.

For your reference, we have summarised below the key information shared. A copy of the presentations can be found on Kirkby College's website.

### **Directors from the Family of Schools**

Experts in Maths, English, Science, MFL, Humanities, Computer Science/ICT, Performing Arts, SEND and Attendance have already started working with teachers and staff in school to support your children. These colleagues are experts in their fields and they will continue to support staff and students to attain outstanding results.

### **Timings of the School Day**

We will be making changes to the structure of the school day. 'Ready to Learn' will move to mid-morning and will be renamed Tutor Time. Break and lunchtimes will be split to settle behaviour and reduce bullying incidents. This will be achieved by placing Tutor Time alongside break, meaning only half of the school will be on break at one time resulting in higher levels of supervision. Please note, there will be **no** immediate changes to the start and end times of the school day.

From September 2022 and following consultation, we will make changes to the start and end times of the school day which have been included below. The proposed changes were well received by parents/carers and will increase opportunities for enrichment activities and create space for continued professional development for all staff. Further information regarding the consultation will be provided next term.

## Proposed School Day from September 2022

08:15	Student to be on-site
08:25 - 09:25	Period 1
09:25 - 10:25	Period 2
10:25 - 11:00	Tutor Time/Staggered Break
11:00 - 12:00	Period 3
12:00 - 13:30	Period 4/Staggered Lunch
13:30 - 14:30	Period 5
14:30 - 15:30	Enrichment Curriculum

### Uniform

Students will be issued with their new Outwood tie following the student assemblies which will take place after Easter. **No** other immediate changes will be made to the uniform.

The uniform will change from September. **All** students, including new Year 7 students in September 2022, will receive a **free** uniform bundle comprising:

- A blazer
- Two shirts
- A skirt or trousers
- A tie
- PE polo shirt
- Rugby top
- Shorts
- PE socks

Further details regarding how to measure, order and collect/exchange your child's new uniform will be provided at a later date.

Students will also require for September:

- A school bag (large enough to hold an A4 folder) and equipment comprising black pen, red pen, pencil, ruler and eraser. Students will be expected to have their Planner with them
- Black polishable flat shoes (no trainers or sports brands)
- 40 denier tights with skirts
- Black socks with trousers

### Behaviour Policy

All students have the right to come to school and have uninterrupted learning. We have high expectations of behaviour and we make no apologies for this.

A new Behaviour Policy will be introduced to students in the summer term. Parents/carers and students will receive clear notification of when this will happen and we will provide you with more detailed information regarding the specifics of the policy. The system is called 'Consequences'.

In addition to the Consequences system the following information was shared with parents/carers:

Phone Free School - we believe our schools must be free from the distractions and disruption mobile phones / earphones cause to learning. We expect phones to be switched off at the school gate, kept out of view and remain switched off until students exit the school gate at the end of the day. This policy has been very effective in ensuring that these devices, including iPods and MP3 players etc, do not disrupt learning in school. If your child is seen with a mobile phone in school, it will be confiscated and will only be returned to their parent/carer at the end of the day.

**No** jewellery, nail varnish, false nails or eyelashes will be allowed. There will be no exceptions. Make-up should be very discrete. Students are encouraged to wear a wrist watch but they must not wear the smartwatch type.

We also took parents/carers through a list of behaviours which could result in a permanent exclusion. Whilst this is always an incredibly difficult decision to make, the safety and welfare of students and staff in the wider school community will always be the overriding priority.

Should parents/carers wish to look at the Behaviour Policy in more detail, please refer [here](#) in the first instance.

### **Praising Stars**

You will receive a report on your child's progress every 6/7 weeks and have the opportunity to come into school by request or invitation to meet staff every term. We will report to you on how your child is progressing against their target and the effort they are putting into their subjects.

### **Praise**

We are excited to be able to bring a raft of praise initiatives to the academy. Opportunities to celebrate success are crucial for students to have the confidence and determination to work hard and be successful.

### **Learning**

Students spend most of their school day in lessons. This is the time where they should be working hard, learning new skills and concepts, and feeling proud about their achievements. We have developed a number of tools to support lessons which move at pace and demand that all students think and learn. Learning becomes the focal point of everything we do.

Parents/carers and families play an important part in the transformation of the academy and your support in making sure students understand and follow the expectations and rules is critical. We will communicate with you well in advance of any changes we are making in order for you to prepare and support your child.

We all recognise that there is an urgent need for change and between us we will move the academy forward rapidly. We want to be able to spend our time discussing learning, progress, achievement and celebrating success and not debating uniform and jewellery rules.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you once again for your support and we are looking forward to working with you throughout the year. Should you have any questions, please visit the dedicated FAQ site [here](#).

Yours faithfully



Julie Slater  
**Chief Executive Principal, Secondary**



Steve Roberts  
**Lead Principal**