



Clacton County High School

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Higher Expectations, Raising Aspirations, Transforming Lives

15th December 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

As we head towards the end of term and the thoughts of Christmas gifts and treats are very much in our minds, I wanted to email you with a few reminders in order that we endeavour to have a perfect start when we return to school on 8th January 2024.

I know that very often over the season when there are a lot of celebrations and gatherings, students often want to look their best. Many students will have piercings as gifts, dye their hair a seasonal colour, others will have their nails and false eyelashes done, but it is important to remember that when they return to school in January:

- All facial piercings must be removed. Please avoid any new facial piercings over the Christmas period as most require not to be removed for 6 weeks (this should be an option for the start of the summer holiday). 6 weeks as an excuse for not removing a piercing is unacceptable.
- No false nails and natural nails must be of an appropriate length and colour.
- Hair must be returned to a natural colour.
- False eyelashes cannot be worn.

Please remember these rules have not changed since you made CCHS the secondary school of choice for your child. As a parent myself to two teenagers, I totally appreciate that enforcing boundaries and taking a difficult stance on certain issues can often make you unpopular with your child/ren, but parental support in this matter is very important. Students will not be allowed in their lessons if they are not meeting the standards, parents may need to collect their child to have accessories/hair colour removed safely or professionally.

In addition, school uniform is becoming a challenge for a small minority of students and I wanted to remind all of our parents of the CCHS uniform expectations:

- Leggings, black jeans, skinny trousers and ankle grazers are not permitted. Students must wear appropriate straight leg full-length black trousers.
- White shirts and school ties must be worn.
- Students wearing the CCHS royal blue skirt are expected to wear them at an appropriate length, they should not be rolled over at the top. Students will be asked to unroll and adjust their skirts to be a suitable length appropriate for a work/school environment.
- Socks must be either navy, black or white. Ankle or up to the knee socks. Socks should not be worn above the knee when on the school site or in the school buildings.
- All students must remove any non-uniform items, such as coats or non-uniform sweatshirts when they enter the school building and all must be wearing a school blazer with the CCHS badge on the breast pocket.
- No hoodies are allowed to be worn on the school site nor within the buildings.
- School shoes are plain, flat or small heel polishable shoes. No trainers or canvas like footwear items are suitable.
- All students are required to bring their PE kit on their timetabled PE lesson days, even if, for any reason, they are unable to participate. They will be assigned an appropriate task.

If students do not meet CCHS expectations, parents will be contacted and requested to either take their child to change into appropriate uniform or bring the items into school for their child to change into. If any family needs advice or support in purchasing any uniform items, they should contact their respective pastoral team. We acknowledge that all of us are individuals and often develop our styles as we move through life, but uniform is a very important part of the CCHS identity and is a great leveller for all students. Home and school working together in partnership is so important in maintaining our high standards of expectations, this applies to uniform as well as behaviour.

It is important that all members of our school community are treated with respect, this includes not only peer to peer, but how students speak to members of staff and how we speak to each other. Visitors and those telephoning into the school are requested to be calm and polite in all of the interactions. To avoid disappointment and frustration, please ensure that you pre-book any appointments with members of staff as they will not be available without an appointment.

Finally, it is really important that we start back in January on a positive note, we all want to achieve the best outcomes for your children and I hope that we are able to rely on your support in all matters related to school.

Kind regards,

Chris Taylor
Head of School