

Dear Parents/Carers

I do hope you enjoyed the Bank Holiday weekend and the relaxation in some restrictions which we are now able to enjoy whilst staying safe. At school, we are all really looking forward to teaching students without these restrictions and reintroducing day trips, visits, sports day, performances etc as it seems such a long time since we have enjoyed these activities. It is also the time of year when we are planning for September. You will see details of our summer school below which should be bigger and better than ever before. We also want parents' feedback on what we do well and where we could improve. So please do answer the survey below, it should only take a couple of minutes. I am particularly keen to know about the most effective ways to communicate with you all and how to encourage everyone to attend Parents' Evenings?

[Parent Questionnaire on Communication](#)

For parents of Year 11 and 13 we are ensuring we have collated all assessment information prior to the 27th May which will be the last day for most Year 11 and Year 13 students. However, we may need some students to attend after the June half term.

Finally, can I please remind parents and carers to be respectful of the residents and local community when you are dropping off and collecting your children at either end of the school day. Please ensure that you do not obstruct gates and driveways, as well as remaining polite and respectful during any interaction.

Stay safe.

Mrs C Horrocks
Principal

Uniform

We have an excellent second-hand uniform shop at The Elizabethan. If you have items of clothing that are still in good condition, please consider donating them to our uniform shop as parents are so grateful for this service. This is particularly relevant to our Year 11 students. Please bag up any clean items and bring them to Mrs Whinfrey in the Finance Office.

We are currently exploring a scheme whereby the uniform is re-sold and the donor receives a substantial part of the proceeds. Therefore, could we ask that you ensure that any bags of clothing do contain the name of the person who would receive any proceeds.

Assessment

As we embark on our final few weeks for our Year 11 and Year 13 students, there are some updates I would like to share with you:

Assessment Materials:

As per the government timeline, all assessment materials, as provided by examination boards, are now freely available to students and parents. These are useful for students to use for revision purposes but please encourage your son/daughter to avoid trying to learn/cram papers. Research from the OCR exam board has proven that this is not effective, as students may encounter disappointment at not seeing specific questions appear that they were expecting, wasting time looking for questions which they have done before, trying to retrieve from memory the specific answer (and getting stressed) rather than simply getting down and answering the questions.

Teachers and Faculty Leaders have looked at these assessment materials, as well as past papers and other assessments available, and have created assessments based on the content students have covered throughout their course.

It is important to note that these assessments have been created in order to allow students to demonstrate their best performance in each subject. Teachers will be outlining the areas of the courses on which students will be tested, in order to allow them to focus their revision on a specific topic or theme of the course.

Mitigating Circumstances:

It is inevitable that some students will have faced mitigating circumstances beyond their control over the course of their study. The guidance from JCQ classifies this disruption into two categories:

1. COVID Related Disruption:

This relates to any absence/disruption which has come as a direct result of the COVID pandemic. As all students have faced closure to schools, this has already been taken into account in reduced content in assessments. Other disruption will be as a result of a student having needed to isolate as a result of them having had COVID, a family member having had COVID, or them having isolated as a result of the Test and Trace process.

As parents and students have contacted us with the details of any isolation, we already have the details of any impact this has had on our students. Should there be any circumstances where you believe we are not already aware, please follow the link to the form below and complete with all details of the absence or disruption.

2. Mitigating Circumstances (Non-COVID Related Disruption):

This covers anything else which may have created disruption to a student's learning and could, therefore, have placed them at a disadvantage.

Examples include:

- Illness (with medical evidence)
- Mental health issues (with medical evidence)
- Bereavement of a close family member or friend
- Domestic crisis

Should you believe that there are any mitigating circumstances we should be aware of, please complete the form below and provide us with as many details as possible, so that this can be taken into consideration when awarding grades. By not completing the form, we will assume there are no mitigating circumstances we need to be aware of.

Please follow this link to complete the form to let us know any mitigating circumstances:
<https://forms.office.com/r/SS5iP7GqjC>

It is important to state that we must be made aware of any circumstances now, so that we are able to take them into account in the grading process.

Should there be any additional evidence relating to mitigating circumstances, please email it to assessment@elizabethan.notts.sch.uk.

If you have any further questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact the school via the above email address.

Sixth Form

New September 2021 Intake

The Sixth Form has received record numbers of applicants this year to study with us. Interviews have been conducted and all offers of places have been made to prospective students. If you have not applied but still

want to please check the school website [here](#) for further details of how to or email Assistant Principal, Lee Dainty, dainty1@elizabethan.notts.sch.uk to make further enquires.

Year 13 - Leavers Assembly 27 May

On the 27 May we say farewell to our Year 13 students. Whilst this date marks the end of one journey and the start of a new, I write this with great pride in students that joined us as children but leave us as fabulous, well-rounded adults ready to take on the world. Despite the challenges they have faced over the last 14 months, they have continued their education with a determination and a drive to make it work. The Sixth Form team intend to hold a leavers assembly in the afternoon to recognise the students and their achievements.

Safeguarding - carrying of dangerous weapons. PAC

Knife crime is regularly in the national and local headlines and the incidence of young people carrying a knife is on the increase ... this means that education around the dangers of carrying is ever more important. Young people are curious and many, however misguided, believe it is cool to carry a knife and often as a means of protecting themselves. We work closely with our police liaison officer PC Bev Jeffree in ensuring our young people understand the risks and dangers of carrying anything that could be used as a weapon and she will be in school on Friday 28 May, delivering sessions with students, especially Year 7 who have missed her input due to the lockdown.

All schools in Bassetlaw are experiencing and dealing with incidents where students are caught in possession of a knife either out in the community or in a school bag...thankfully, they are few and far between. However, we must not believe that it won't happen with our young people. With this in mind, it is paramount that at home and in school we are vigilant by ensuring we know what our children are carrying in bags and pockets and we are curious about conversations that cause concern or compromise safety and ask questions.

If one of our young people is caught carrying a knife in the community or in school, we will take serious and immediate action ... following the initial investigation, it will be reported to the police and trigger a MASH referral for social care intervention, the young person will be excluded and following this be educated off site, until the Youth Justice System have completed education and restorative work and it is deemed safe for the young person to be reintegrated into school.

Nottinghamshire Police are very proactive in tackling knife crime and reducing the number of incidents in our local community. We need to support this by playing our role at home and in school in ensuring our young people behave responsibly and never compromise their and others safety. Recently on Stephen Lawrence Day we told his story in school and engaged the students in the dangers of carrying knives ... please have a conversation with your child about what the main messages from this were.

You can look further into the law around being in possession of a knife and hear some personal reflections from people whose lives have been affected by knives via the following link ...

<https://www.nottinghamshire.police.uk/knifecrime>

Careers Survey

Dear Parents/Carers

We are keen for your feedback on Careers at the Elizabethan and would therefore be extremely grateful if you could please donate some of your time to share your thoughts so that we can ensure that we continue to meet the needs of your children:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=XFtgPtCtpk-2U5ftHI52sWv3GP-FQdILmM09dzjIIMBUNFRGUzgyR1ZESIdVVzBFQ1pTUUI0OE9KNy4u>

Alumni

Out of 38 Year 13 students last year, 21 went on to University with students moving across the country including Cambridge, Leeds, York St Johns, Newcastle and Portsmouth, studying a wide variety of subjects from Law, History and Cyber Security to Sociology and Agricultural Business. Students also moved into a wide variety of work and apprenticeships including hospitality, family businesses, retail and customer services. A small number decided to take a gap year to travel or work before moving into Higher Education while others chose to remain at local colleges to continue in further education in areas such as Concept Art and Technology.

We wish all of our students every success and if you would like to be involved in, or have an ex-student at home who wishes to join, our ever-growing Alumni group and work with our current students, please complete the form (link below) and we will be in touch. I have no doubt that the class of 2021 will continue to aim high and work hard towards their goals on the route that is right for them. I look forward to reporting next year on the steps they have chosen to take and hearing their stories and successes!

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=XFtqPtCtpk-2U5ftHI52sWv3GP-FQdILmM09dzjIIMBURVFSQkJCMTNNO1FRFZQSTdOS0tMNVhXSC4u>

Summer School

Year 6 Summer School will be taking place Monday 26th July to Friday 30th July and each day will run from 9.30am until 2.30pm. The Summer School provides opportunities, through various workshops and activities, for the students to improve their confidence and self-esteem, as well as their literacy and creative skills. Students will have the chance to try their hand at a range of circus skills, create graffiti art, sports workshops and take part in a treasure hunt. Look out for an email from Mrs Barstow with further information and the link to sign up.

Calendar dates:

Thursday 20th May – Year 10 Parents' Evening 4.15pm-5.15pm

Monday 31st May - Friday 4th June – May Half Term

Monday 14th June – Friday 18th June – Cadet Annual Camp at Driffield

Monday 12th July – Year 4/5 Open Evening 5pm-7pm

Thursday 22nd July – Year 11 Celebration/Prom 7pm - 11pm