

chaseterracetechnologycollege

(Part of the Stephen Sutton Multi Academy Trust)

Dear Parents/Carers

July 2018

As we near the end of another busy school year I wanted to thank you all for your continued support of what we try to be here at CTTC, namely a school that stresses the importance of our community values – Live, Love, Laugh, Learn. There is nothing more rewarding as a teacher than a conversation with parents/carers about how delighted they are with their child’s schooling - we don’t get it right every time but we strive to be the best that we can be. I am pleased that parents and students feel that they can approach staff and share their thoughts about the school, and be reassured that by doing so their opinions matter.

Exam Season

I am very pleased to report that our Year 11 and 13 GCSE and ‘A’ Level exam season has gone well. Feedback from students suggests that they found exams fair and balanced – which is always a good sign. Staff thought likewise – papers allowed students to show what they know. No more can now be done as we move into the long waiting period for results later this summer. As I have said to the students on many occasions if they know they could have done no more, then they should rest easy as their results will reflect this. ‘A’ Level and GCSE results days are Thursday 16th and Thursday 23rd August respectively. Results will be available from the school from 9:30am on both of these days. Envelopes can be collected from the 6th Form Common Room.

School Changes

As parent/carers will know we have made some significant changes ahead of the new school year in September. All of these are designed to improve the learning experience of our young people – this is always at the heart of everything we do.

Our behaviour policy is bedding in well – the students are well aware of the 3 rules we have, namely Be Respectful, Be Ready and Be Safe. Our staff have been asked to model these behaviours so that our students see how adults behave in an adult world. We give first attention to best practice – meaning we highlight and reward the good rather than focusing on sanctions. We emphasise what we want to see rather than what we don’t. Any new policy of this sort takes time to settle down and we are not yet perfect but the students and staff are well aware that the leadership of the school is determined that this approach will succeed.

School Day

Our school day has also been restructured. From the beginning of September our school day will begin at 8:30am and formally finish at 2:50pm. The day will feature 4 lessons before lunch and one lesson after lunch. Several adjustments have been made to our initial proposals following parents/carers, staff and students consultation. The final plan for the day is as follows:

Time	KS3 and 4	6th Form – either/or	
08:30 – 08:50	Registration 1		
08:50 – 09:50	Period 1		
09:50 – 10:50	Period 2		
10:50 – 11:10	Break		
11:10 – 12:10	Period 3		
12:10 – 13:10	Period 4	12:10 – 12:40 Lunch	12:10 – 13:10 Period 4
13:10 – 13:40	Lunch	12:40 – 13:40 Period 4	13:10 – 13:40 Lunch
13:40 – 14:40	Period 5		
14:40 – 14:50	Registration 2		
14:50	End of school timetable.		
	Some students will be asked to stay after school until 15:20 for various support sessions		

School transport will leave at 3pm each day.

Uniform

We have made alterations to our girls' uniform which come into force at the beginning of September for those students who are new to the school, with a flexible replacement period for current members of our school community. The new uniform should have been fully adopted by all students by January 1st 2019 giving parents time to replace uniform over several months rather than rushing to do this immediately. I hope that this will give parents a lead in time that will work well. Full details of our uniform and appearance policy are available from the school or on our website.

Show My Homework

The introduction of Show My Homework is well underway. Take up amongst parents is a little 'hit and miss' and I would strongly encourage all parents to ensure that this software is available on smartphones and/or tablets so that you can monitor and support your child with their homework. This requires you to download a free App and sign in using logins available from school. As this software allows the school to send messages home free of charge this will be our preferred method of communication in the medium to long term. With budgets being as tight as they are we cannot afford to continue to send paper copies of documents to parents or send text messages which we are charged for. Should you experience any difficulties with this product there are some handy help documents on our website for parents/carers and we are happy to help here in school also.

Final Week of Term

We are very close to entering the final week of term and our annual Enrichment week which, once again features all manner of trips and activities that explore alternative styles of learning. I would like to thank the staff for their hard work in planning these sessions for students which always deliver a different end to a busy year. We particularly wish our French and German groups a safe trip and our D of E group who this year head for Borneo a life changing expedition.

Our last day of this term is Friday 20th July. Students will finish for the summer holidays at 12:30pm. School transport will be rearranged to leave the school site at 12:40pm. Lunch will be available for those that wish to take it at 12:30pm.

New Autumn Term

The autumn term begins on Wednesday 5th September. We always have a staggered start to our first day back so that we can ensure that our new intake students are well looked after. Our first day back timings are as follows:

- New Year 7 intake – arrive at 8:30am
- Year 8 students arrive at 9:30am
- Year 9 students arrive at 10:20am
- Year 10 students arrive at 9:55am
- Year 11 and 13 students arrive at 10:30am
- For Year 12 students their first day of school is Thursday 7th September at 8:30am

We look forward to welcoming our newest and largest intake into Year 7.

Students catching school transport will be collected at normal times. They should report to the library or wait in hub areas until their scheduled start times.

As you all know the staff at CTTC are my greatest asset and it seems fitting at this end of the year to thank them all for their continued hard work on behalf of your children. We have a few departures this summer as in previous years – staff who have given many years of loyal service to this school and will be greatly missed. Others are getting married. I do hope that everyone takes a well-deserved break from their school routine.

Can I please wish you all very happy summer holiday – let's hope this weather persists. Thank you for all the support that you give to the school – it is much appreciated and makes working with the young people here at CTTC so much easier. I hope you can all enjoy some quality family time and look forward to working with you all in the 2018-19 academic year.

Best Wishes

Tim Chamberlin
(Headteacher)