

# chaseterracetechnologycollege

(Part of the Stephen Sutton Multi Academy Trust)

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back!

Welcome back to the new academic year 2017-18 and a particular welcome to families that are new to Chase Terrace Technology College. I hope you were able to enjoy a good summer (despite the unpredictable British weather) with lots of quality family time.

As I write this newsletter I am delighted to report that our new Year 7 cohort appear to be settling in very well. My immediate impression is of a polite and enthusiastic group of students and this is reflected by feedback from the year office and classroom teachers who have spoken to me very favourably about their charges – long may this continue!

Term has got off to a very positive start across all year groups. I was pleased to meet with all our students during assemblies to reiterate my message of team work and resilience – approaching the challenges of being at school with a smile on your face and understanding that we all – staff, students and parents/carers have the same goals of reaching our full potential. Pulling in the same direction will make these ambitions so much easier to attain.

I must also pass on my congratulations to all of our students who sat exams during the summer term. As a school we are delighted with their achievements. I have thanked the staff both in the press and in person at our staff meetings for their continuous hard work and determination to support our students in reaching their goals. It's now onto the next cohort of examinees who I hope are already getting into good study routines in preparation for the challenges that lie ahead.



## Achievement Points (APs)

Maintaining the positive start to the year I wanted to remind parents/carers about our relatively new Rewards and Aspirations Programme through which we celebrate students who have gone 'above and beyond'.

**How the programme works:** Students can earn Achievement Points (APs) for demonstrating behaviour that is 'above and beyond' expectations. Students can achieve APs for *academic achievement, outstanding effort, school representation and outstanding values*. All students will work their way up the 'Points Pyramid'; earning rewards as they progress. Every term the Top 5 students from each year group will also receive an additional reward. More details can be found on Pages 12 and 13 of the student planner.

**A message from Mr Barter and Miss Roach:** We are looking forward to continuing the APs programme this year which was introduced last summer and based on the positive feedback from both pupils and staff it confirms the positive impact the programme is having on the learning climate here at CTTTC. It was excellent to see students striving to and consistently demonstrating behaviours that are 'Above and Beyond' every day at our school. We hope that students will continue to feel motivated and going beyond expectations as they work their way up the Points Pyramid this year. We look forward to being able to extend the range of rewards this term; including taking Year 7 & 8 on rewards afternoons and higher years receiving gift vouchers of their choice. Every student can achieve APs and therefore rewards on this programme by simply demonstrating behaviours that are 'above and beyond'!



## Uniform

Thank you to parents/carers for your support of our school uniform policy. Almost without exception our students looked smartly turned out, comfortable and ready to get down to business. This helps us enormously in getting lessons underway with a positive atmosphere without the need for challenge and questions. Girls have been reminded about the need for modest skirt lengths which fall 5 to 10cm about the knee. Whilst I have given girls the choice of which type of skirt they wish to wear, tube skirts made of stretchy material remain a concern – we agreed at assembly that the girls would police this themselves and that the staff would monitor how things were going! Help from home would be much appreciated in this area.

## Behaviour Policy

A further change this year has been a revamp of our school Behaviour Policy. As a school we are all about rewards rather than sanctions and to reiterate this message we have simplified our behaviour policy to just 3 rules which cover everything: Be ready, Be Respectful, Be Safe. Being ready means having the right equipment for lessons, being punctual and ready to begin classes, completing homework when it is set – anything that means that the school day gets off to a prompt start and continues in that way.

Being respectful covers all interactions between human beings at CTTC – student to student, student to adult, adult to student and adult to adult (in this context adult includes parents and carers). Nothing other than respectful exchanges will be tolerated.

I hope that being safe is self-explanatory – don't take risks of any sort – think before you act.

Again I explained all of the thinking behind these changes to students in assemblies at the beginning of term and this information is printed on pages 10 and 11 of the student planner. I hope that this will lead to far fewer detentions as students take responsibility for their attitude and behaviour within this context.

## Carpark

Further to my mention of carpark remarking in last terms newsletter I can now confirm that this work has been completed. Entrance to the school main carpark now requires drivers to turn immediately right and follow the carpark round in a one-way fashion. This has immediately improved our student's safety as the traffic moves away from the school building rather than clogging up the entrance to the school. Cars are also moving at a slower speed – again improving safety and our coaches exit the carpark in the same direction as the rest of the traffic. Can I please ask parents who are using the carpark to observe the yellow hatching at the entrance/exit to the carpark – as is normal Highway Code practice this box should not be entered unless it can be exited without stopping. Please only use disabled spaces if you are displaying a disabled badge. Thank you for your assistance in this area.

## Mobile Phone and Earphones

During our recent assemblies I talked to the students about the place of mobile phones in the school environment. The students agreed with me that mobile phones were a useful thing to have on the way to and from school and that phones should be turned off and put away in school bags during registration time and lesson times. The same goes for earphones which should not be worn at these times. Mobile phones can only be retrieved from bags during lesson time with the express permission of the classroom teacher for a specific reason. I am happy with this arrangement and hope that parents/carers support me fully in this considered and moderate position.

## Stephen Sutton Bursary Applications

Burntwood Town Council has agreed to make an annual bursary available to talented young people wanting to go onto greater achievements in the Arts, Sport or Academic fields. Two annual bursaries of up to £1,000 are available. To qualify for consideration for the bursary, individuals:

- Must be resident within the Burntwood Town Council boundaries. PLEASE NOTE: Applications will not be accepted from anyone who is not a resident of Burntwood even if they attend a Burntwood school.
- Be aged between 11–14 or 15-19 years
- Be able to demonstrate an outstanding talent for their activity.

The scheme is intended to help fund additional opportunities to develop talent further and can be used for a variety of projects including purchasing specialist equipment or clothing, research projects, extra tuition or coaching, competition fees and travel.

The 2017 Bursary Award scheme is now open and applications should be submitted by 30 September 2017. Further details and application forms can be found on the school website.

Best Wishes

*Tim Chamberlin*  
(Headteacher)