

NORTON COLLEGE

Beyond Expectations

Our Ref: TJ/HTO

16 September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

As you are aware, schools will be closed for the bank holiday on Monday 19th September for the funeral of Queen Elizabeth II. We have run assemblies for all students this week as a mark of respect and to explain the significance of the reign the Queen. Our 'Norton Thinks' Mentor Time activity has asked students to suggest ways in which we could commemorate this as a school.

On a more operational note, it has been lovely to see the seamless way in which our new Year 7 students have settled into life at the school. We look forward to meeting those of you who are parents of Year 7 students at the Year 7 Mentor Evening on Thursday. Similarly, we look forward to seeing those of you who are parents of Year 10 students at the Year 10 Information Evening on Wednesday.

Year 7 Mentor and Information Evening

Year 7 Mentor and Information Evening takes place on Thursday 22nd September from 4:30pm – 7:00pm. This is an exciting opportunity for you to discuss your child's transition to life at Norton College, along with attending presentations regarding key subject content and assessment systems. Letters will go out to students at the beginning of next week with instructions for making appointments through Insight.

Year 10 Information Evening

Our Year 10 Information Evening takes place on Wednesday 21st September. This is a face-to-face event and takes place between 6pm and 7pm with presentations from Mr Johnson, Mr Stones and Mr Fryirs. We will provide key information on assessment and target setting and outline how you can support your child to be successful in Years 10 and 11. Hard copy resources will be distributed at the event to support students to structure their learning and revision when away from the classroom. We will share a link to a live version of the event and a subsequent recording for those parents unable to attend.

CCTV

As I explained in last week's letter, the network of CCTV at the school has been extended across the school over the summer holiday. This system will be operational from Tuesday onwards. In accordance with legislation and in line with other schools across the country, it includes cameras which monitor the entry and exit to the toilets and the wash basins, though no camera is directed towards or monitors any of the toilet cubicles themselves. The extension of the network goes across the site and means that we can monitor the site even more effectively than before and to ensure everyone's safety.

Uniform

The new term has seen the introduction of the changes to our uniform. These were determined through extensive consultation with students and parents over the course of the last school year. Black has now started to replace the grey aspects of the uniform, bringing a new level of smartness, with the new ties uniting each year groups.

Please can you ensure that your child is following the uniform guidelines and expectations to avoid the need for sanctions within school. The trousers must be full length (no leggings, jeans or 'jeggings'), shorts and skirts must be knee length in a non-stretchy material. Shoes should be plain black (no high heels, boots or plimsolls allowed). Trainers are allowed but must be all black and leather looking.

Full details of the uniform expectations are available on the school website, under the 'parents' and 'uniform' tab. If you have any questions regarding a uniform matter, please contact your child's Pastoral Year Group Leader in the first instance:

Year 7 - Miss Blackburn

Year 8 - Mrs Haigh

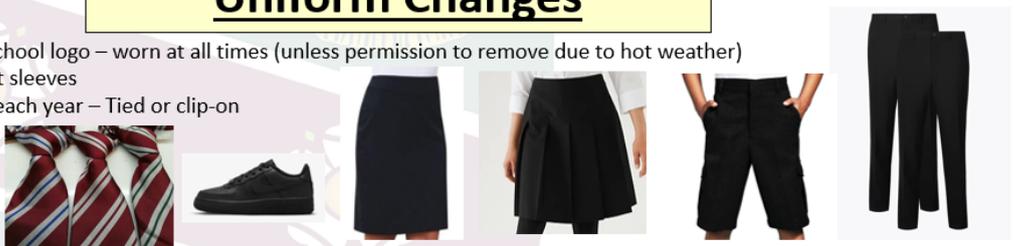
Year 9 - Miss McIvor

Year 10 - Mrs Muir

Year 11 - Mrs Austin

Uniform Changes

- Unisex **Maroon blazer** with school logo – worn at all times (unless permission to remove due to hot weather)
- **White shirt** with long or short sleeves
- **School tie** – Coloured tie for each year – Tied or clip-on
 - Y7 -**Purple**
 - Y8 -**Blue**
 - Y9 -**Amber/Yellow**
 - Y10 -**Red**
 - Y11 -**Green** (original)



- **Black full length trousers** (no leggings, jeggings or Jeans), or **Black Shorts (tailored, knee length)**, or **Black tailored skirt** (knee length, non-stretchy material)
- Only **black or white socks** are allowed, optional black tights
- Plain **black shoes** (slip on or lace up). No high heels, boots or plimsolls allowed. Trainers are allowed but must be all black and leather-looking.

Optional

- School jumper from the school supplier
- Plain, outdoor coat or jacket. It must not be worn as an alternative to a blazer and must be removed in lessons.

Hairstyles

- Fashions evolve over time and we remain aware of changes in trends however, extreme hairstyles and colours are not permitted. The School is the arbiter of what is considered 'extreme'. Hair dye should be natural in colour. If in doubt, please contact the School.

Jewellery / Makeup

- Students are only permitted to wear plain studs in each lobe, and a wristwatch. One nose piercing is allowed, but this must be clear, no rings or bars. Unacceptable jewellery will be confiscated, and the behaviour system implemented.
- Makeup should be discreet, which includes false eyelashes, and nails should be short and natural.
- Visible tattoos are not acceptable. This includes eyebrow tattoos / lines or shapes cut into eyebrows.

Extra-Curricular Clubs and Activities

We are currently putting together a menu of all extra-curricular clubs and activities and we will share this with you in the coming days. We anticipate that these events will begin from W/C Monday 26th September with the late bus provision beginning on Tuesday 27th September and running once per week thereafter. **As in previous years, students must sign up for this late bus in advance to ensure that a place has been secured.** From 27th September, the late bus will leave College by 16:25 every Tuesday.

School Meal Price List

We have reluctantly reviewed our school meals price list in line with rising costs of food provisions. We have increased the Free School Meal allowance to £2.50 and matched this with our 'main meal and a

pudding' price. This is the best value item on our menu and provides a full and wholesome meal. The new price list is available on the College website via the link below:

<https://www.nortoncollege.net/attachments/download.asp?file=1226&type=pdf>

The new price list is effective from 20 September 2022. However, due to the on-going volatility of the cost of food provisions, we will be undertaking a further price review towards the end of the Autumn Term and will communicate with you again when we have completed this exercise.

Open Evening Early Closure – Wednesday 28th September

As mentioned in last week's letter, please note that the college will be closing to students at 2:15pm on Wednesday 28th September, in order that we can prepare the site for the Open Evening for prospective parents of Year 5 and Year 6 students which takes place from 5:00pm – 8:00pm that day.

School transportation has been reorganised to accommodate this early closure. We do have capacity to supervise students in school until 3:15pm if necessary; please contact admin@nortoncollege.net if you would like your child to do so.

Mobile Phone Policy

A reminder that students are not allowed to use their mobile phones within the school. The full mobile phone policy is available via the Policies page of the school website [here](#), where you can read the full rationale and the consequences of infringements of this policy.

Although we do not allow students to use their mobile phones in school, we are not banning students from bringing them onto the college site altogether. We recognise that they offer an obvious point of safeguarding contact; for example, in the case of unexpected travel disruption. However, we ask you to support us in emphasising the need for phones to be switched off and out of sight during the school day.

As you will see within the policy, earphones will be confiscated if a student is wearing them in school. Although students may choose to bring earphones to school, there is no reason for these to be used within the school day itself.

Student Access to the Fitness Suite

Please note that students will not be able to access the fitness suite on an after-school basis until further notice. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause. Any PE and Sport lessons which form part of the main curriculum are unaffected.

Yours faithfully



Mr T Johnson

Headteacher