

St. Gregory's Catholic High School

Cromwell Avenue, Westbrook, Warrington, Cheshire, WA5 1HG.
Telephone: 01925 574888



Headteacher
Mr E McGlinchey BSc (Hons) NPQH & NPQEL

Our ref; CM/ SH

20th July 2022

Dear Parent / Carer,

End of term letter July 2022 – Part 2

It is incredible that a year has passed already! I would like to thank the many parents and carers who work hard to support St Gregory's in maintaining our high standards with regards to attendance, punctuality, uniform and behaviour. Your child is a credit to you and we are proud to have them as pupils at our school.

We demand these standards to prepare children for life after school when they will compete in the job market against thousands of others for good employment. Developing high standards now will put your child in a great position later in life. It is also important that children develop high levels of resilience so that they will be able to correctly cope with the inevitable demands that life will bring. This development period is right now.

In order to maintain our high standards and in preparation for a fresh start in September, I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the expectations regarding attendance and punctuality; uniform, mobile phones, ear pods as well to provide you with information on safeguarding and SIMS parent app.

Attendance and Punctuality:

We are very pleased with the attendance and punctuality of the vast majority of our pupils, even in such a challenging year; they are keen to be in school learning. **St Gregory's has the best attendance record in the area but we are keen to ensure that these standards apply to all pupils. There is no doubting the negative impact of missing time in school in terms of resilience and exam performance.**

I must remind all parents and carers that it is a legal obligation that pupils attend school. In order for pupils to make good progress, it is vital that pupils attend school on a regular basis to prevent them from missing lessons, falling behind and ultimately not reaching their potential.

At St Gregory's we set a **minimum target of 97% attendance**. Pupils with attendance below 90% are classed as **persistent absentees** and studies show that their progress is significantly impacted. In addition to this, punctuality is a vital life skill and good habits form from an early age. Pupils who arrive late to school are missing Collective Worship, form notices and many other learning opportunities. Please do ensure that your child leaves home with sufficient time to arrive at school no later than 8.40am. As you will be aware from previous communication, pupils who arrive to school late will be placed on a 'late' detention on the same day.

Schools have been asked by the Department for Education to promote good attendance with pupils and their families. As such, we have an attendance action plan as well as an attendance policy, both of which can be found under the policies section of our website. Please be aware that if your child's attendance falls below 95% for whatever reason, an attendance letter will be sent home. If it continues to fall, then a further letter will be sent. Should there be no improvement then you will be invited to attend an attendance meeting and may be referred to the Local Authority Attendance Team.

One family... inspired to learn.'

SEAL it with RESPECT

Fax: 01925 243 816

Email: schoolenquiry@stgregoryshigh.com

Website: www.stgregoryshigh.com



St. Gregory's R.C. High School Appeal Trust. A REGISTERED CHARITY



SIMS Parent App

Earlier this year, we launched our SIMS parent app and are very pleased to hear that parents and carers are enjoying using the app and finding it a useful tool for monitoring your child's attendance, punctuality and behaviour. In addition to this, the app can be used to pay for trips and meals and your child's report can be found on the app. If you have not yet downloaded the app then please see the home page of the website where you will find instructions on how to download it.

Uniform

Our uniform policy is shared on our website for you to see and all pupils should adhere to the uniform policy.

Shoes: Pupils should wear school shoes and not trainers or boots. Please ensure that when buying shoes for your child's return to school in September that they are in line with our uniform policy. Nike 'air force' 1 or any other trainers (even if sold under 'school shoes' in a shop) will NOT be allowed. Any pupil who arrives to school wearing trainers will be given a pair of shoes to wear for the day so that they are dressed in line with all other pupils.

Jumpers: Pupils are allowed to wear our school jumper if they are cold; no other jumper/hoody is allowed. When inside pupils should not wear coats / jackets / hoody's.

Jewellery: One pair of stud earrings are permitted but there should be no other piercings. If your child is planning to have a piercing done over the summer holidays, please ensure that it is done early so that there is sufficient time for the piercing to heal prior to returning in September. Any pupil with other piercings will be asked to remove them.

Make-up: False nails and eyelashes are not permitted, neither is make-up – please do not allow your child to have false nails/eyelashes put on during term time.

Mobile phones and Ear Pods

We understand that pupils have become accustomed to having their phones with them at all times; however, when in school pupils are not allowed to use their phones or ear pods during the school day. If a child is seen using these items, then they will be confiscated and kept in the safe overnight as per our devices policy which can be found on our website.

We appreciate your support with these matters and look forward to working in partnership with you as we share the responsibility of educating your child.

Safeguarding

If you have any safeguarding concerns over the holiday period, then please refer to the Safeguarding page of our website, which has a wealth of useful information and links to other agencies. If you need to speak to someone about a safeguarding matter then you can call the NSPCC - 0808 800 5000 or Warrington Safeguarding Team – 01925443400. If it is urgent, then call the police on 999.

Yours sincerely



Clare McKenna
Deputy Headteacher