



Our Ref: CDY/endofterm/sf
19th July 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

As we near the summer holidays we often consider just how much has happened at Buxton Community School over the last year. September seems an age ago, we were reflecting on the best exam results the school has ever seen just as OFSTED called to let us know they were going to visit. As you know they confirmed what we thought, that you send your children to a good school that offers a strong curriculum, delivers top class teaching and provides the opportunity for every child to progress academically and develop as a person.

The summer also brings a little sadness as we will lose some staff and students who move on to new chapters in their lives. Conversely, you also think about next year and we have an increasing number of students joining the school; our Y7 cohort is growing year on year and we expect an increase in our entry to sixth form too. Despite what you may have read in the national press about the shortage of teachers at a national level, we have recruited well and we are fully staffed for September with very high quality subject specialists and they will bring plenty of experience and energy to the school. Our growing reputation and the opportunity to work in this school with your children is proving too good an opportunity to miss for teachers looking for a new role.

Pastoral Care

A little while ago we introduced new pastoral structures right across the school to increase and improve provision and it has had a real impact. This year we have been very lucky to appoint three new pastoral managers to the team and we have further strengthened the leadership capacity in the team to support the work they do. Attendance across the school is improving as is punctuality. We have also seen substantial improvements in the standards of behaviour. The number of exclusions has fallen by over 50%. We are not complacent as good attendance and good behaviour support good learning. We expect every student to aim for 95% attendance or better and students to work with us and as always, we need your support with this.

There will be one change in September as we move tutor time from the end of the day to the end of period two. This means we will still start the day with lessons as students and staff have been very positive about this initiative. However, we recognise the need for tutors to meet the students in their care earlier in the day to help set the tone for learning.

Curriculum & Assessment

All our departments continue to work incredibly hard to develop new schemes of work from Y7 to Y13, to meet the demands of the new curricula that are coming on line across every subject. We have refined our assessment and reporting systems so we can provide you with meaningful information about the progress of your child. This is the first-year students will receive numerical grades in GCSE English and maths. It will take some time for everyone to become familiar with the new grading system but eventually all GCSE subjects will move to numbers as grades.

Organisation

We recently wrote to you all about a possible proposal to develop a multi academy trust in the local

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Headteacher: **Mr Craig Yates**
Bsc (Hons), NPQH



area with Chapel en le Frith and Highfields schools. We have spent much of the time since I wrote to you looking at the feedback from those who have been in touch. The response has been broadly supportive and understanding of the thinking behind the proposal. As I explained in my letter we were letting you know that we wanted to begin talking and that there was no plan at this stage. Understandably, people would like more detailed information and as the proposal develops we will share any plans with you for discussion. We are committed to this being an open and transparent process. A year ago, I mentioned in my summer letter that our position is simple; the decisions we make will be those of the greatest benefit to the students at Buxton Community School and we will talk with you about any developments as they emerge. I am happy to say we are still driven by the same philosophy.

As always to keep improving, we need support from you as parents and carers. If you are buying new uniform for September, we have attached an up to date copy of the guidance to this letter (including footwear guidance). We will continue to take a stand on uniform and we will take firm action when students are not dressed correctly in September. What we most often need from you as parents/carers is support over the small things like correct uniform, bringing equipment and kit etc. so please help us in helping your children achieve the most they can.

To help if you need to get in touch with us, you will find contact details for key staff across the school who you may wish to contact at the end of this letter. You will also find an up to date list of tutors for next year telling you who the new tutor will be. If you have any concerns, the Form Tutor, Pastoral Manager or Director of Progress are often the best point of contact. You are also very welcome to contact the head of department should there be a specific subject issue, a member of SLT should a more serious issue arise or myself if you would like to talk with me personally.

We made contact by text last week but I would like to confirm that school will close at 12.10pm on Friday 21st. We have planned to hold the sports finals on the field in the morning if the weather is good (please send your child with sun cream) or we will celebrate the end of term indoors if the weather breaks on the day. Alternative bus times are detailed below and we can put supervision in place for the small number of children who may not be able to take advantage of the early finish. If this applies please contact Sandi Flint so we know who to expect on the day.

Thank you very much for your support during a very busy year and I wish you all a lovely summer.

Yours sincerely



C Yates
Headteacher

- **Peak Dale, Peak Forest, Sparrow Pit, Chapel-en-le-Frith, Chinley, Buxworth and Whaley Bridge:**
students can travel on High Peak Service 190, which leaves the Market Place at 1.35pm.
- **Dove Holes, Chapel-en-le-Frith and Whaley Bridge:**
students can travel on the High Peak 199, which leaves the Market Place at 1pm.
- **Brierlow Bar, Sterndale Moor, Pomeroy and Newhaven:**
students can travel on High Peak service 441, which leaves the Market Place at 1.18pm.
- **Chelmorton and Taddington:**
students can travel on the Transpeak service, which leaves the Market Place at 12.40pm.
- **Earl Sterndale, Longnor and Hartington:**
students can travel on High Peak service 442, which leaves the Market Place at 2.28pm.

Instructions for the first day back – Tuesday, 5th September 2017

- Year 7 come in for 8.50am and report to their form rooms.
- Year 8–Year 11 come in at 9.45am and report to their form rooms.
- Year 12 to report to the Gothic Hall at 8.40am.
- Year 13 to report to the Study Centre at 9.50am.

Useful Contact Details – September 2017

Area	Person	Email Address
Y7 Progress	Mr C Holman	charlie-joe.holman@buxton.derbyshire.sch.uk
Y7 Pastoral Manager	Mrs C Siddons	caroline.siddons@buxton.derbyshire.sch.uk
Y8 Progress	Mrs J Lomas	jess.lomas@buxton.derbyshire.sch.uk
Y8 Pastoral Manager	Ms K Beesley	kirsti.beesley@buxton.derbyshire.sch.uk
Y9 Progress	Miss A Meaden	amy.meaden@buxton.derbyshire.sch.uk
Y9 Pastoral Manager	Mrs L Gale	laura.gale@buxton.derbyshire.sch.uk
Y10 &11 Progress	Mrs C O'Brien	claire.obrien@buxton.derbyshire.sch.uk
Y10 Pastoral Manager	Mrs D Birkin	debbie.birkin@buxton.derbyshire.sch.uk
Y11 Pastoral Manager	Mrs A Wray	amy.wray@buxton.derbyshire.sch.uk
Sixth Form Progress	Mrs J Cruse	jackie.cruse@buxton.derbyshire.sch.uk
Sixth Form Learning Advisor	Mrs R Hall	rebecca.hall@buxton.derbyshire.sch.uk
Headteacher	Mr C Yates	headteacher@buxton.derbyshire.sch.uk
General	Admin support	information@buxton.derbyshire.sch.uk

Form Tutors		Changes from 2016
New Year 7	Tutor	
7Bkr	Miss A Barker	
7lgn	Miss L Ingham	
7Wth	Mr G Wentworth	
7Pks	Mr D Parkes	
7Scs	Mrs C Scholes	
7Wst	Mr J Warhurst	
New Year 8	Tutor	
8 Bar	Miss S Barratt	
8 Hwd	Miss A Heywood	
8Lwn	Mr S Lockett	Cover for Miss Lawrance
8Bdg	Mr P Bridge	Was 7Rfn
8Gth	Mrs C Gelsthorpe	Was 7Wlm
8Cpy	Miss A Copley	Was 7Wrd
New Year 9	Tutor	
9Mre	Mr M Moore	
9Ads	Mr T Adams	
9Hwr	Mrs J Howard	Was 8Lyd
9Jns	Mr G Jones	
9Mst	Ms L Muscroft	Was 8Bkr
9Hll	Miss A Hall	
New Y10	Tutor	
10Mry	Miss C Murray	
10Wwh	Mrs E Wentworth	
10Pkd	Miss C Pickford/ Mrs V Booth	
10Wlk	Mr M Walker	Was 9Pks
10Mln	Mr M Milner	Was 9Crl
10Kch	Mr E Kitchen	
10Ncl	Ms J Nichol	Was 9Wst
New Y11	Tutor	
11Wrd	Mr J Ward	Was 10Thm
11Crt	Mr D Carter	
11Bky	Mr C Buckley	
11Eds	Miss H Edwards	
11Sfd	Mrs T Stafford	Was 10Kel
11Adr	Miss B Adair	
New Y12	Tutor	
12 Wgn	Mr A Warrington	
12Hwl	Miss L Howells	
12Obn	Mr C O'Brien	
12lsc	Mr A Isaac	
12Wkn	Mr R Wilkin	
New Y13		
13Hpe	Mrs R Hope	
13Bte	Mrs E Batey	
13Hth	Mrs L Hainsworth	
13Wrg	Mrs C Warrington	
13Tho	Mr S Thomson	

School Holidays and Closures from September 2017 to July 2018

<u>HOLIDAY</u>	<u>CLOSE AFTER SCHOOL ON:</u>	<u>RE-OPEN ON:</u>
	(Please see below for Inset Days)	
Autumn		Tuesday 5th September 2017
Mid-term	Friday 20 th October 2017	Monday 30 th October 2017
Christmas	Tuesday 19 th December 2017	Wednesday 3 rd January 2018
Mid-term	Friday 16 th February 2018	Monday 26 th February 2018
Easter	Friday 23 rd March 2018	Monday 9 th April 2018
Bank Holiday	Thursday 3 rd May 2018	Tuesday 8 th May 2018
Mid-term	Friday 25 th May 2018	Monday 4 th June 2018
Summer	Friday 20 th July 2018	

School will also be closed to students on the following days:

- Monday 4th September 2017 Staff Training Day
- Friday 22nd September 2017 Staff Training Day
- Tuesday 2nd January 2018 Staff Training Day
- Friday 4th May 2018 Staff Training Day
- Monday 7th May 2018 Bank Holiday



School Uniform



Our School Uniform is:

- **Black blazer** with school logo (purchased only from Trutex or Tesco.com). Only school badges allowed on lapel.
- Plain **white shirt** with a pointed collar (not tight fitting blouse) buttoned to the top and must be worn tucked into trousers/skirt.
- **School clip on tie** — purchase from school via ParentPay
- All **black trousers or skirt** (skirt must be knee length). Trousers and skirts must be plain black, made of school uniform type material only (not denim, canvas, cord, linen, or leather). Leggings/legging type trousers and jean-type trousers with patch pockets are not allowed.
- Shoes should be leather or leather look, polishable **all black, flat, sensible school shoes**, not canvas or other materials, no boots or sports trainers. There should be no logos. Please see the photo guide below

- **Socks** should be plain black or white. Tights should be black.

Optional:

- A plain, **all black V-neck, knitted school jumper** may be worn under the blazer (no logos). The jumper **must not** be worn instead of the blazer. No sweatshirts.
- A **belt**, if required, should be thin, plain black with a plain buckle.

Not allowed:

- Coats, scarves, hats or gloves should not be worn inside the building.
- Jewellery or piercings are limited to a watch and one small stud in each ear.
- Jewellery cannot be worn at all for PE (Derbyshire County Council Policy for schools).
- Ear stretchers cannot be worn, for health and safety reasons.
- Any makeup should be unobtrusive.
- There should be no extreme hair styles. e.g. patterns shaved into the head; vivid hair dye

The blazer is available from Trutex Direct, the Trutex and More store in Macclesfield and from Tesco.com. The tie is available from school only (purchase via ParentPay). Only the official school blazer and tie will be allowed.

PE Kit

Boys and girls have the same PE kit:

- BCS badged navy blue polo shirt
- BCS badged navy blue zip up hooded top
- Navy blue elasticated waist sport shorts
- Plain white football socks for outdoors
- Plain white short socks or trainer socks for indoors

The PE kit is available from Trutex Direct and from the Trutex and More shop in Macclesfield. The badged navy polo top can also be purchased from Tesco.com



Footwear :

Shoes - all black, polishable, leather or leather-look shoes with no coloured logos. No boots.

Socks - Plain Black socks only.