

Wednesday 9th June 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 12 Update

I hope this letter finds you and your families well and that you are enjoying the return to summer sunshine.

I am writing both to give some reminders about forthcoming events during the remainder of this term and to update you on our revised Sixth Form Dress Code, which we will be asking students to follow from September 2021.

Year 12 #RoleModels

We have, throughout this academic year, been thoroughly impressed with Year 12 and their approach to school in general. Their attitude to study, commitment and perseverance throughout this disrupted year has been exceptional. In a recent assembly, I reminded Year 12 of our philosophy that sixth form students are role models and I congratulated them for living up to this despite the challenges this year has brought. We had record numbers of students applying to be part of our Student Leadership Team, making our job in selecting the team very difficult indeed. Do look out for our updated pages on the school website, via which our new team will outline their roles and exciting plans for 2021-22. Year 12 have also impressed with their attendance, which has been 97% on average throughout the academic year and was impressively high even during the lockdown period. We know that attendance has a direct correlation with attainment, and so we are delighted that Year 12 have fulfilled our very high target of achieving 97% attendance! We are very excited about the possibilities for Year 12 as they enter their final year of schooling with us in September, having laid the strongest possible foundations this year.

Year 12 Pre-Public Examinations

As you are aware, next week marks the beginning of our Year 12 Pre-Public Examinations. We hope that the techniques for revision and study strategies shared with students at the Maximize workshops before the half term holiday are put to good use as students continue with their revision. These mock exams will allow staff to assess our students' progress as we approach the end of the academic year so that we can identify areas to be addressed in the remainder of this term and over the summer holidays so that our students can 'hit the ground running' in September. Students will not be granted study leave for these examinations, however, staff will be flexible in allowing students to revise in class where appropriate. The results of these assessments will be shared with parents and carers before we break for the summer holidays via Edulink.

Work Experience

As you will be aware, we have allocated the week commencing 5th July to work experience for Year 12. The opportunity to undertake work experience is a statutory expectation of all 16-19 education providers, and we have ensured that, despite the disruption to the academic year caused by Covid-19, our students still get this chance. We



know that many of our students have secured work experience placements already through family/friends or by approaching companies/organisations; thank you for your support with this to date. Whilst in-person work experience is preferred, we recognise that this is more difficult to organise in the current climate and therefore virtual work experience placements are certainly a worthwhile alternative. Please sign up to [Speakers for Schools' Experience website](#) to search for virtual work experience opportunities - just search for those starting 5th July.

If you have secured a placement, please ask the employer to complete the attached form and return this to Bev Moore in the sixth form student services office by Friday 18th June. We need this to be completed for insurance, safeguarding and health and safety purposes.

Sixth Form Dress Code

Having reviewed a number of other aspects of our sixth form provision, we have decided to publish a dress code to ensure that our students, parents and carers are clear of our expectations around this. Whilst we do not wish to impose office/business dress like a number of other sixth forms, we do want to ensure that all students and staff in our richly diverse community feel comfortable and are dressed appropriately for the school environment, recognising their privileged and deserved position as role models to our younger students. Please find details of our guidance around sixth form dress from September 2021 at the end of this letter.

Future Pathways/Mentoring

Our students have been completing sessions based on Future Pathways during morning registration on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays since Easter and should therefore have a good general overview of the process of applying for post-18 destinations. To support this further, all Year 12 students have been allocated a mentor who will meet with them regularly on an individual basis from now onwards to ensure that each student receives individual support with their chosen post-18 route. Allocated mentors will be emailing students over the course of this week to arrange their first sessions, so that students can begin to draft personal statements or conduct more specific research over the summer holidays. In Year 13, tutor time in the morning no longer takes place to allow for more regular mentor meetings in the run up to sending off UCAS or Apprenticeship applications. We have found this individualised approach to supporting our students to be very beneficial in ensuring excellent quality in our applications for post-18. Students applying for Medicine, Veterinary Medicine, Dentistry or to Oxbridge are also receiving specialist support in addition, so that their early entry applications can be as competitive as possible.

If you have any questions about any of the above, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Mr Wynn, Head of Year 12.

With very best wishes for the remainder of the academic year.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Claire Green | Director of Sixth Form
Northampton School for Girls



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Sixth Form Dress Code

As role models to their younger peers, we expect our sixth form students to dress appropriately for the school working environment.

We do not, however, wish to prevent individuality and we recognise that the workplace our students are preparing for has fewer restrictions in terms of dress than for previous generations. We therefore believe that it is a fitting privilege to have a reasonable amount of personal choice in the sixth form but students also have a responsibility to dress in the expected manner. Please remember that we are a diverse community and we have a responsibility to consider the sensibilities of all members. We do not wish to have a long list of rules with specific measurements of clothing like some schools but we have provided some guidance below. This list is not exhaustive and we reserve the right to point out other issues as they arise. The overriding principle is that it is the judgement of the staff that determines what is suitable or not.

As such, we have developed a dress code with the following principles at its heart:

Clean, Covered and Comfortable

- Footwear should be appropriate
- No caps and hats
- No leggings
- No bodycon/tube dresses or skirts
- No micro-mini skirts/dresses
- No slogans that could be considered abusive or offensive
- No excessively ripped jeans
- No underwear should be visible
- No cropped tops, skinny strap tops, backless tops
- No beachwear (including sliders/flip flops)
- No facial piercings, large looped or tunnel earrings
- No shorts
- No fishnet tights

It is possible that, at times, you may not meet our expectations and then we will intervene to let you know and we will expect you to respond by adapting your dress.



Work Experience Agreement

Name and Address of Company:

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Name of Main Contact:

Telephone Number/s:

Email Address:

By signing this form, you are agreeing to allow to

complete work experience with the above named company between and

.....

You agree:

- To inform the student of any potential health and safety risks and the measures taken to reduce the risk. Provide a risk assessment if necessary.
- To explain to the student what is expected of them for the duration of their work experience.
- Give the student any training that is necessary for them to undertake the work safely and effectively.
- Check the student's progress and make adjustments to their role if necessary.
- Complete the work experience evaluation form at the end of the placement and email to Bev Moore at bmoore@nsg.northants.sch.uk.
- **That you have Employer's Liability Compulsory Insurance (ELCI)**

Insurer:	Policy Number:
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Name: Signed: Date:

