



# The De Montfort School

UNLOCKING YOUR CHILD'S POTENTIAL

28 May 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

As we approach the end of the half term, I wanted to relay my thanks to you for supporting us in ensuring The De Montfort School continues on our journey of improvement. I am delighted to say that the vast majority of students have responded incredibly positively to the changes we've put in place. In fact, we will be issuing 267 certificates for 100% attendance and 363 certificates for perfect conduct. We know we have more work to do to ensure that every single student performs to their best in everything they do, but we are very much up for the challenge.

I do want to take the opportunity to give a few reminders and set the tone for the remainder of the summer term:

### Attendance and Punctuality:

These both remain key priorities of the school. We ask all parents to ensure that their child is in school by 9.00am at the latest and to attend every day they are well enough to do so. I can share with you from research that students who miss 17 school days a year achieve 1 GCSE grade lower in every subject. The correlation between attendance and academic success is incredibly strong. Without wishing to patronise, I've included a table that shows how attendance correlates to school days and lessons missed.

If attendance over the school year is..	..the student will miss this many days	..and this many lessons
100%	0	0
95%	10	50
90%	19	95
85%	29	145
80%	39	195
75%	49	245
70%	58	290

Please do everything you can to support us as we strive for every child to reach their potential.

### Equipment:

We have focussed on students having at least the basic equipment in their possession every day i.e. a pen, pencil and ruler. As we move into the second half of the summer term, we ask that students have the full list of equipment with them. That is:

- exercise books/folders
- planner
- pencil case
- black pen
- pencil
- ruler
- protractor
- rubber
- glue stick
- scientific calculator (from Year 7)

We ask that you support us in ensuring your child is fully equipped.

**Bullying and Friendship issues:**

We are aware as students grow up that they will experience friendship issues. Sometimes, these can become persistent and therefore move from being friendship issues into bullying. As a school, we will not tolerate bullying and will always take reported incidences very seriously. As an exciting development in this area, from our return after half term we will be introducing 'Your Concern'.

Your Concern is a web and text-based service for student to report any concerns that they may have regarding bullying. All students will have to do is click the link on our website or text 07756228473 and let us know what their concern is. We will monitor referrals each school day and investigate everything reported.

Your Concern is available to parents too, but must only be used to report friendship and potential bullying issues. All other concerns must be made in the usual way.

**Positives:**

Again, thank you for your support since students returned to us on 8 March. It has been a real pleasure to work with the students as they adapted to life being back in school. I will share some of the feedback we've received, both from students and from external consultants:

What students have said:

- behaviour is far better now
- we are now learning far more in lessons
- it is good to have clear boundaries and know what is expected of us

What external consultants have said:

- students are very positive about the changes to the behaviour policy
- behaviour is now good in school
- teachers are now able to focus on teaching rather than dealing with low level disruption

We still have a way to go to reach our ambitions for the school and students and will work tirelessly to deliver. We look forward to further improvement over the next few weeks.

I finish by wishing all of our students an excellent half term break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 7 June, refreshed and ready for a positive final half term of learning.

Yours sincerely



Mr P Hyde  
Deputy Headteacher