



# TDMS

Tuesday 19 October 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Over the past few weeks I have had the pleasure to show a number of visitors around the school, ranging from our Chief Executive Officer, our School Improvement Partner, the Chair of our local governing body, and prospective governors to headteachers of our feeder schools. All have noted how calm and settled the students are. I couldn't be prouder of our students walking the school. Students' conduct both in and out of lessons has been excellent and impressed all that have visited. Students' excellent attitudes and conduct is reflected in the number of achievement points given out compared to the number of behaviour points. This half term, over 8000 achievement points have been awarded compared to 1800 behaviour points. We will be continuing our focus on achievement and rewards as we move through the year.

We have conducted weekly student voice activities some with staff in school and others with external visitors so that we can really gauge how our students are feeling, in particular about the new behaviour policy and homework. Last week the Deputy Chief Executive Officer met with our Year 11 students to discuss behaviour, lessons and the up and coming mock examinations. All noted that although they didn't like the new behaviour policy when it was launched in March last year, they now understand why it was necessary. They were very open about the normal behaviour in lessons this time last year and one Year 11 student noted that 'everyone is more focussed now and just gets on. We get through so much more work now'. The amount of work that students are completing in lessons is increasing and teachers have noted how much more they are getting through. Moving forward this is essential for all students but especially our Year 11 and 13 students facing their final examinations.

We fully understand that there are still some inconsistencies with the application of the behaviour policy and we are working hard to get this right moving forward. Our behaviour policy is not about compliance but about ensuring the lessons are conducive to learning, that teachers can teach and all students can learn. We want all our teachers to be able to be experts in their chosen field and be passionate about what they teach. They should not be spending all their time on managing poor behaviour and the 99% of students who are eager to learn should not have to have their lesson time wasted. Students are now regularly reporting during student voice that their teacher has more time for them and that they feel more secure as the expectations are clearer. Student voice activities will continue throughout the year as will the parent/carers voice activities.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your support over the past half term. I wish you all a relaxing half term.

### **Years 7 and 8 homework after the holidays**

Following feedback from students and parents/carers, we have made the decision to pause the subject specific homework launch until the spring term. After half term, students will continue to receive homework in Maths (via Hegarty Maths) and English, but will not be set any subject specific homework. This will ensure our students have the skills in place to manage their time before increasing the homework tasks.

### **Covid vaccinations**

Currently there are no plans to hold any more catch up vaccination sessions. If your child is yet to be vaccinated and you would like them to be, please contact your doctor's surgery.

### **Parent/Carer forum**

The next meeting will be on 17 November at 6.30pm. Fiona Lovecy will be presenting on supporting students and we will be sharing information about uniform moving forward. Please email me at [parent@tdms.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:parent@tdms.worcs.sch.uk) if you would like to attend and let me know what you would like to discuss.

## Parent/carer questionnaire

Thank you to all who have filled in the parent questionnaire. We are monitoring it on a weekly basis to help us inform our school improvement plans. We will be leaving it open until 27 October to allow as many parents as possible to complete the form. The questionnaire can be accessed via the QR code below or via the link.



<https://forms.office.com/r/5t1X8YrWB0>

## Quick reminders!

- Don't forget, Lateral Flow Tests (LFT) should be completed on a Sunday and Wednesday evening and results communicated to the NHS.

## Letters

- [Behaviour Updates](#)
- [Free School Meals update](#)
- [GCSE and A Level Summer Examinations](#)
- [Year 11 Mock and Summer Examinations](#)
- [Year 12 and 13 Parents' Evening – reminder](#)

## Keeping you up to date

Did you know we use social media as another way of keeping you up to date with what's going on? We post updates, reminders and regular messages praising and showcasing the work of our students' amazing efforts. Follow us on Twitter: @TDMS\_Evesham, Facebook: @TDMS.evesham and Instagram: @tdms.evesham

Thank you again for all of your support. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me on [parents@tdms.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:parents@tdms.worcs.sch.uk).

Yours sincerely

Ruth Allen  
Headteacher

## School calendar for the next two weeks

<b>November</b> Monday	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ First day of November GCSE examination series</li><li>▪ GCSE 8700/1 English Lang exam</li></ul>
Tuesday	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ GCSE 8300/1 Maths exam</li></ul>
Wednesday	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ GCSE 800/2 English Lang exam</li></ul>
Thursday	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ GCSE 8300/2 Maths exam</li><li>▪ Y11 Parents' Evening (Appointment Only)</li><li>▪ Y12 Parents' Evening</li><li>▪ Y13 Parents' Evening</li></ul>
Friday	5	
Monday	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ GCSE 8300/3 Maths exam</li><li>▪ Y11 performance recording day 1</li></ul>
Tuesday	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Y11 performance recording day 2</li></ul>
Wednesday	10	

Thursday	11	▪ Sixth Form Open Evening
Friday	12	