

head'sherald

SIR THOMAS BOTELER CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL, GRAMMAR SCHOOL ROAD, WARRINGTON, WA4 1JL | 01925 636414 | INFO@BOTELER.ORG.UK

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Dear Parents/Carers

Happy New Year. I hope you are well and had a lovely time over the festive period.

We are straight back into the new term and it is wonderful to have all the young people back with us.

It is vital that you have all the correct apps for communication from school, otherwise you will not get important messages. We send In-App messages and emails and regularly update the website and social media. I communicate with you every week and I appreciate there can be a lot of information at times but it is all shared to ensure we have the best working relationship and so you can support your child effectively.

We really value the parental/carer support you provide and it is vital that we are on the same page. Please email the info@boteler.org.uk or ring the office 01925 636 414 if you need to update any contact information.

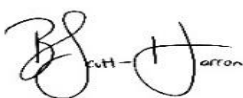
Below are links to the school website with information on how you access the necessary apps. Any problems then please let us know.

Arbor Parent Portal: [Arbor – Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England High School](#)

Satchel One: [Satchel One | Login](#)

iPay: [iPayImpact Online Payments – Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England High School](#)

Best wishes



Beverley Scott-Herron
Headteacher

Year 11 Information

Year 11 had their Mock Results assembly this afternoon. I know from speaking to our students beforehand how excited they were about the grades that will be in their envelopes.

We will be emailing a copy of your child's mock result this afternoon in advance of **Year 11 Parents' evening which will be held in school on Monday 8th January.**

This is perhaps the most important Parents' evening of a child's secondary education. Year 11 students now have only have 15 school weeks left until the GCSE exams begin. If you have not made a booking yet for the Year 11 Parents' Evening please do so asap on SchoolCloud.

We really value your feedback. We have introduced an online feedback form, which on the evening you will receive a QR code with direct access to. We would greatly appreciate if you could spare a few minutes to complete this.

As Mr Koltan has communicated before Christmas, **we will be extending the school day for our Year 11 students as we did last year with a Period 6 lesson.** On a Tuesday to Thursday there will be a day dedicated to a 'Subject area' and the students will attend a study session for the dedicated subject. At the end of Period 5 the students will be brought to the canteen for refreshments before they start work again. The session will run from 15.15-16.00 Tuesday – Thursday. The Period 6 lessons are compulsory and will run on a two-week timetable in the same way as our normal school timetable operates. The first session starts on **Tuesday 9th January** and will run up until the GCSE exams are completed.

Working At (WA) Assessments

KS3 students will be starting their Working At (WA) assessments in all of their subjects during assessment fortnight (**Monday 8 January – Friday 19 January 2024**). This may take the form of a test or an assessed piece of writing/practical piece of work.

All tests will be classroom based and undertaken under exam conditions. It is important that students are used to working in this environment so they are fully prepared for their examinations in Year 11. Students are expected to be fully prepared for all assessments with the **correct equipment** which includes:

- Pen
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Eraser
- Pencil sharpener
- Pencil case
- Scientific calculator

The New Year offers an opportunity to reinforce the high standards and high expectations we have of all students, with the first assemblies of the year addressing this next week. Please work through the below with your child/ren, ensuring that school and parents continue to work in partnership, striving for the best possible educational outcomes for all students.

School rules – Ready, Respectful and Safe

School rules play a crucial role in maintaining a safe, structured, and conducive learning environment. Here at school, we aim to keep the rules simple and easy to understand, therefore, we ask students to be **READY**, **RESPECTFUL** and **SAFE** at all times. We work hard on the consistent application of these school rules because we know that they serve several important purposes, including:

SAFETY: School rules are designed to ensure the safety of students, staff, and visitors. Rules about behaviour, dress code, and the use of equipment help prevent accidents and injuries.

Order and Discipline: School rules provide a framework for maintaining order and discipline within the school. They help establish a structured and predictable environment where students can focus on learning without disruptions. Rules related to classroom behaviour, respect for authority, and consequences for misconduct help create a positive learning atmosphere.

Promoting Respect and Responsibility: School rules emphasise values such as respect, responsibility, and fairness. By adhering to these rules, students learn important life skills and values that are essential for their personal and social development.

Academic Focus: School rules can support academic excellence by minimising distractions and ensuring that classroom time is used effectively. Rules related to punctuality, attendance, and the use of electronic devices help create an environment conducive to learning.

Preparation for the Future: Following school rules teaches students about the importance of adhering to rules and regulations, which is a valuable skill in both their academic and future professional lives. Learning to respect deadlines, follow instructions, and work within established guidelines prepares students for success in the real world.

Inclusivity: School rules can also play a role in promoting inclusivity and equity. Rules that prevent discrimination, harassment, or exclusion based on factors like race, gender, or disability contribute to a more diverse and inclusive school community.

Parent and carer support in ensuring their children understand and follow rules is crucial to them reaching their full potential, and we very much appreciate the partnerships we have with all of our families.



OUR SCHOOL RULES

AT SIR THOMAS BOTELER CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL YOU MUST BE:

READY
RESPECTFUL
SAFE

Home-School Agreement

With referencing parent and student partnerships above, we would like to take the opportunity to remind you of the Home-School Agreement that was sent out at the start of the academic year.

In line with sections 110 and 111 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 the governing bodies of all maintained schools, academies, city technology colleges and city colleges for the technology of the arts must publish a home-school agreement and associated parental declaration. The governing body must take reasonable steps to ensure that all registered parents of students of compulsory school age sign the parental declaration to indicate that they understand and accept the contents of the agreement.

Our Home-School Agreement sets out:

- our responsibilities towards our students
- the responsibility of each student's parents/carers
- the expectations of our students



SIR THOMAS BOTELER CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

HOME-SCHOOL AGREEMENT

Name: _____

Tutor Group: _____

Date: _____

HIGH EXPECTATIONS | HIGH ASPIRATIONS | HIGH STANDARDS | YOU WILL SUCCEED

As a school we will:	As a parent/carer/I/we will:	As a student I will:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have high expectations for all learners in all aspects of school life • Expect high standards of behaviour and promote respect for all • Provide an environment where all students are safe, happy and confident, whilst striving for the highest possible achievement for all students, underpinned by Christian values • Deliver a curriculum which is stimulating, challenging, innovative, enjoyable and motivates students • Offer a range of enrichment activities to interest and engage students beyond the classroom • Provide regular homework in accordance with the School Homework Policy and ensure appropriate feedback is given 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that my child attends school every day, in full school uniform, on time and fully equipped • Inform the school immediately of any absence and avoid unnecessary absences (e.g. Family holidays in term time) • Support my child's progress and achievement by attending parents evenings and other school events • Ensure that my child completes the set homework • Respond to school communications as appropriate and inform school of any concerns or problems that might affect my child's learning, behaviour or well-being • Support the school ethos, behaviour code of conduct, other policies and guidelines • Encourage my child to have an active role in the life of the school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend school regularly and on time, striving for the best possible attendance and punctuality • Wear the school uniform correctly and follow the school rules relating to appearance • Be fully equipped for every lesson and look after my property (including ISP) • Complete classwork and homework to the best of my ability to ensure that good progress is made towards targets • Behave safely, following the rules of the school • Treat all members of the school community with courtesy and respect, responding to staff at their first request • Represent the school in a positive manner when in the community, even when not in the school uniform

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide effective means of communication between home and school and respond quickly to any enquiries or concerns • Set aspirational individual targets for every student in each subject and promote education as a lifelong process • Contact parents/carers if there are concerns regarding your child's attendance and punctuality • Provide support for each student to help them make progress towards their targets, engaging parents in the process • Develop relationships between all stakeholders based on courtesy, respect and tolerance • Reward students for their positive contributions and achievements • Offer parents/carer the opportunity to become involved in the wider life of the school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Endorse the efforts of the staff involved in teaching the student and those of the pastoral and support staff • Ensure the school is notified of any change in emergency contact numbers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the school ethos and attend events at school • Talk to a member of staff if I have a problem or need support
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Signed on behalf of the school:

Parent signature:

Student signature:

Thank you to those of you who have signed the parental declaration via the Arbor Parent Portal, where further guidance can be shared if needed.

We are asking for further support in relation to the first point in the parent/carer responsibilities, to 'Ensure that my child attends school every day, in full school uniform, on time and fully equipped'. The vast majority of students are fully compliant within this area, however, there are an increasing number of students who are not meeting our high expectations and are in breach of the school rules in relation to appearance. With some specific concerns arising with footwear and jewellery, please see a reminder of the below, where parent/carer full support is required.

School shoes:

Black, flat, polished shoes with no other colours or marking must be worn at all times. Shoes with a sports logo are not permitted. No trainers, boots, canvas pumps, heels or shoes that are unable to be polished are permitted. Do not assume stores that label their stock "School Shoes" will be an appropriate purchase. Please use the photographs below as a guide; if in doubt contact Mr Leonard, Assistant Headteacher: jleonard@boteler.org.uk

Makeup and false nails/nail varnish:

Years 7, 8 and 9 are not permitted to wear make-up. Make-up should be minimal and discreet for Year 10 and 11 students. Excessive makeup must not be worn. Lipstick and coloured lip balm is not permitted in any year. False eyelashes, extreme drawn on eyebrows, nail extensions, gel/acrylic nails and nail varnish are not permitted. Students will be asked to remove makeup if a member of staff deems it necessary.

Hoodies and non-uniform jumpers:

Under no circumstances are hoodies permitted in school. They will be confiscated and this is a non-negotiable. Hoodies are not allowed before school, after school, break time or lunchtime either under

or over the blazer. If students are cold, then a navy-blue school V neck jumper should be purchased, with weather appropriate coats recommended for the journey to and from school.

Jewellery and piercings:

No jewellery of any kind is to be worn, except for a watch. Watches must be removed before PE lessons. Students who wearing jewellery, other than a watch, will have these items confiscated immediately no warning will be given. Staff confiscating jewellery will place it in an envelope; the envelope will be taken to the Main Office to be locked away. Students will be able to retrieve their jewellery at the end of the day. The school takes no responsibility for jewellery which should not have been brought into school, and is subsequently lost or stolen. However, once confiscated, the school and its staff are responsible for ensuring its security.

We have seen a rise in the number of students having newly pierced ears and noses during the academic year. We are very clear that students should not get their ears or any parts of their face newly pierced any time other than at the start of the 6-week summer holidays, due to the length of the healing process. Covering piercings with plasters or a clear stud is not acceptable and students will be required to remove all piercings in line with school policy. This is non-negotiable and discussion will not take place regarding this rule.

Equipment:

Students need to be properly prepared for their lessons. Students need to bring the following equipment every day: pen, pencil, ruler, eraser, pencil sharpener (these all need to be in a pencil case), planner, scientific calculator and a suitable school bag. All students must have a reading book and their Independent Study Pack (ISP) with them. The ISP is crucial to support learning and it also has a student's timetable in it to ensure students are always punctual.

Mobile phones:

Recently the Government made the announcement about Headteachers being asked to ban mobile phones from school. The Department for Education wants children to be stopped from using devices at break times as well as in classrooms. The new guidance will be issued "shortly" but a specific date has not been announced for when schools should bring the ban into effect.

However, this will not be anything new for us at Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England High, as we have enforced the below for a number of years:

- Mobile phones, iPods and headphones are not allowed to be used or seen in the school building or on site during the school day.
- On entry to the school building, mobile phones, headphones or other electronic devices must be switched off and put in a school bag.
- Mobile phones and headphones should not be visible on a student. They are to remain in bags.
- Mobile phones will not be allowed to be used in lessons for research, or as a calculator or for telling the time. Students are not allowed to use mobiles as calculators in examinations and they need to have their own scientific calculator for this purpose.
- Mobile phones and headphones are not allowed to be switched on/used until students have left the school site at the end of the school day.
- In an emergency, please contact the school office and we will send a message to your child.

- Mobile phones or headphones seen in the building or outside during school time will be confiscated.
- Students will be able to collect the item at the end of the school day from the C3 room.

Where there are on-going concerns regarding the use of mobile phones, we will be escalating the sanctions. **If a student has their phone confiscated from them on more than one occasion, arrangements will be made for the student to hand their mobile phone in to staff upon their arrival, each day, for one week.** If this is to be the case for your child, we will contact you prior to ensure they are fully aware of plans, with your support needed in ensuring that your child knows and understands the rules.

E-Scooters

The number of children and young people riding E-Scooters is continuing to increase in the UK, and given this is illegal, the police have now issued some guidance.

The link below will take you to the legal position of the use of E-Scooters in a public place.

[www.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/rs/road-safety/advice-escooters/#:~:text=Electrical%20scooters%20\(also,insurance%20and%20tax.](http://www.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/rs/road-safety/advice-escooters/#:~:text=Electrical%20scooters%20(also,insurance%20and%20tax.)

E-Scooters come under the category of 'powered transporters', which means they are classed as motor vehicles under the Road Traffic Act 1988.

This means that the rules that apply to cars, also apply to E-Scooters, including the need to have insurance, a license and tax. Therefore, as it is illegal for children to be riding them on the street, road or any public place, the school does not support their use by our students.

Important News – Summer 2023 Year 11 Students

Your exam certificates are now ready for you to collect from school reception.

Opening times: 8.30am – 4.30pm.



SENIORS PROJECT NIGHT

Do you want to start 2024 trying something new?

Project Zone's next 6-week block starts

Sunday 7th January

for young people aged 12-19 years (25 with additional needs)

Sessions are held between 4-8pm and each session lasts
between 1-2.5hrs depending on the activity.

- Badminton *7pm
 - Baking *7pm
 - Boxing *7pm
- Dance Squad *4pm
- Fundraising for WYZ *6pm
- Music Jam session *7pm
- Performing Arts *5pm
- Song writing *6pm

**Youth Zone Membership is required (one off £5 payment)
then 50p per session **

Book on the Warrington Youth Zone Website or at reception.

Limited Spaces available!

For further information email dawn.dean@wyz.org.uk