

Friday, 15 September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

On behalf of everyone at Carlton Bolling, I would like to welcome you back to the start of the new academic year. As a school, we are here to ensure that all our students receive a world-class education coupled with the very best care, guidance, and support. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your hard work in supporting the school.

I have spoken to each year group in assemblies to share our value words which are respect, resilience, and ambition, which are the foundations of the vision for the school, providing excellent and outstanding outcomes for all our students. I believe that each child is unique, full of potential and is the future - our job is to support, guide and educate the pupils so that they can unlock their potential.

This summer we have seen strong GCSE results, meaning that so many of our young people in Year 11 have secured their first-choice destination of further education, employment and/or training. This is wonderful and a testament to the hard work of our staff teams, and the fantastic support our young people receive at home to assist their learning journey and secure their successful future.

### **The school day and parking**

The school day runs from 8:10 am to 3:10 pm (Monday to Thursday) and from 8:10 am to 1:10 pm (Friday). It is highly recommended that students walk to school where possible; if you choose to drop off and pick up your child, we would very much appreciate consideration for other road users and safe parking. The area immediately outside of school can become very congested at arrival and departure times therefore can parents be extra vigilant during these times when driving.

To hopefully ease the congestion before and after school, students are allowed to use the gate at the back of the school. The entrance will be open from 8.05 am in the mornings and is accessible from Newlands Place.

### **Communication**

Communication is very important to us, and it is vital that you know whom to contact if you need help and support. If you need to discuss your child's progress in lessons or have any questions about their learning please contact Mr Laher, Deputy Headteacher. If you would like to discuss pastoral concerns such as health, well-being, and safety please contact the relevant Head of Year.

All communication with families is paperless. As we are using the parent app or email it is essential you inform the school if you change any of the information we have for your child or your personal contact details.

How to download and use the app can be found by clicking on the link below.

<https://www.carltonbolling.co.uk/parents/school-gateway/>

### **Extra-curricular offer**

A wide range of extra-curricular clubs and activities take place at Carlton Bolling each week, both before and after school. Some are run by school staff, while others are arranged through outside providers. We ensure that all clubs provided by outside groups are run by qualified, DBS-checked leaders and that all activities are run safely.

More details of the activities offered will be sent in a separate letter including information on how to join. Activities will resume after October half term, and I encourage all students to participate in as many as possible.

### **Unauthorised Leave of Absence during Term Time**

New sanctions were introduced by Bradford Council from April this year, to deal with unauthorised leave of absence during term time.

Unauthorised Leave of Absence is increasing, with over 150,000 school days lost last year across all the city's schools. As you would imagine, this has a significant detrimental effect on learning and exam outcomes.

To address this increase, the authority has significantly increased sanctions for parents/carers when their child takes unauthorised absence during term time. Instead of levying a penalty notice and fine, the council will now start legal proceedings through the magistrate's court. This means parents/carers may receive a criminal record as well as receiving a significantly increased fine of up to £2500 per child per parent. Magistrates may also, at their discretion consider a custodial (prison) sentence.

Additionally, where there are lengthy unauthorised leaves of absence, the school will begin procedures to remove the child from the school roll.

I am sure that you will be supportive of these measures which serve to improve the attendance and educational outcomes of children within the school and city. If you have any questions relating to this subject, you can contact Bradford Council.

### **Important dates for half term 1**

- Y6 open evening Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> of September 3.20pm to 5.45pm
- Y7 Nell bank trips from 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> of October
- Y11 Science residential 29<sup>th</sup> of October
- Paris residential 31<sup>st</sup> of October to 3<sup>rd</sup> of November

More information will be provided via email and the school app as well as the school Twitter account, @carltonbolling throughout the year.

Yours sincerely,



Mr M Azum  
Head of School