



Dear Parents and Carers

At the start of the new term, I wanted to write to you so that you are up to date with recent developments, particularly in relation to our uniform.

Uniform

As you know, our new uniform will only be compulsory this September for students joining us in Year 7. For students currently in Years 7 and 8, the new uniform will be compulsory from September 2019 although you are free to convert earlier, if you are planning to renew uniform anyway.

The uniform section of our website (www.framdurham.com) details our new **uniform policy** and **uniform requirements**. Please read these documents carefully and note the following:

- Our new uniform supplier is Michael Sehgal and Sons Ltd. Parents can order on-line or by visiting their premises in Newcastle. Alternatively, a pop-up shop will be open in our school hall for our current students on **Thursday 14th June between 4.30pm and 6.30pm**. You will be able to meet our suppliers, try items of uniform on, and place an order which will be delivered free of charge to school before the summer holidays.
- Students who wish to wear the new uniform must convert fully and can't "mix and match"
- For all our existing students, **our current PE kit will remain the same for the remainder of their time in school**, and can be purchased, as now, from Parkins in Durham. Only Year 7 students will wear the new kit from Michael Sehgal.
- The uniform requirements document provides guidance and examples of acceptable footwear. Please note that the **rules regarding footwear apply to ALL students, whether they wear the new uniform or not.**

Communication

We have recently updated the "Contact" page on our website. You are still able to email enquiries@framdurham.com but in an organisation this size, we thought it would be helpful to give you some other contact information and email addresses to help ensure that your queries are dealt with efficiently. We are committed to improving communication with parents; if you email or telephone us, we will seek to respond within 24 hours (one working day), either to resolve your query or to let you know when it will be dealt with.

Exams

We are coming up to exam season for students in Years 11 and 13. We recognise that this is a stressful time for students (and their parents!), but will continue to offer all the support we can. The students have been working very hard and I have been impressed with their attitude. Whatever stage they feel they are at, the next few weeks are crucial, and my final tips (for the students) are:

- Keep going – you have a long holiday over the summer; go into this knowing you couldn't have worked harder in the last few weeks
- Spend most of your revision time now on practice questions and exam papers
- Attend as many lunchtime and after-school revision sessions that you can
- Give yourself some breaks and take regular exercise
- If you are struggling with something, ask for help. That is what we are here for.

Finally

There are a lot of exciting events happening throughout this term, including trips and visits, our Sports Day and our newly introduced rewards evenings. We will update you on these, and further developments in due course.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andy Byers', written in a cursive style.

Andy Byers
Headteacher

