



May 2018

Dear Parent or Carer

Please find below some important information. I have repeated some of the information you have already received regarding uniform but hope it is useful for you to refer to. Please don't forget the date of the pop-up shop where the new uniform can be tried on/ordered before the start of term. For future reference, I have also included some key dates for your diary for next year, including arrangements for the start of term. We have a staggered start this year, with students in the new Years 7 and 12 starting first.

### **Term Dates: Academic Year 2018/19**

#### Start of Term Arrangements

- **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September: Teacher Training Day: students do not attend**
- Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September: Start of term for students in Years 7 and 12 only
- Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2018: School open as normal for all students

#### Term 1

- Half-Term 1: 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> September 2018 (see above) – Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2018
- **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2018: Teacher Training Day: students do not attend**
- Half-Term 2: Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2018

#### Term 2

- Half Term 3: Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019 – Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2019
- **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2019: Teacher Training Day: students do not attend**
- Half-Term 4: Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2019 – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2019

#### Term 3

- Half-Term 5: Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2019 – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2019
- Half-Term 6: Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2019 – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2019
- **Provisional Dates for Parents' Evenings: 2018/19**

#### Year 7

- Drop-in session to meet tutors: Monday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2018
- X Band Parents' Evening: Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2019
- Y Band Parents' Evening: Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2019

#### Year 8

- Options Evening: Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019
- Parents' Evening: Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2019

#### Year 9 (NB: Banding arrangements may change this year so please note both dates for now)

- X Band Parents' Evening: Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2019
- Y Band Parents' Evening: Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2019

#### Year 10

- Parents' Evening: Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2019

### Year 11

- Sixth Form Open Evening: Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2018
- Parents' Evening 1: Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2018
- Parents' Evening 2: Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019

### Year 12/13

- Year 12: Welcome to Sixth Form Evening – Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2018
- Parents' Evening: Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019

### Other Important Dates: 2018/19

- Open Evening for Year 6 Parents: Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2018
- Year 10 Exams: Week Commencing 17<sup>th</sup> June 2019
- Year 11 Mock Exams 1: Week Commencing 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019
- Year 11 Mock Exams 2: Weeks commencing 25<sup>th</sup> February and 4<sup>th</sup> March 2019
- Year 12 Exams: Weeks commencing 3<sup>rd</sup> June and 10<sup>th</sup> June 2019
- Year 13 Mock Exams: Week commencing 21<sup>st</sup> January 2019

### **GCSE Results Day – Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> August**

Students should report to the Main Hall for 9am where they can collect their results. There will be staff available in school to celebrate their successes with them but also to support them in their next steps and it is at this point that students enrol for our Sixth-Form courses.

For those students who know that they will be unable to come into school on this date, it is important that Louise Coulthard (exams officer) is contacted in advance so that arrangements can be made for results to either be posted home or collected by a representative. In the case of results being collected by a representative, this needs to be requested in an email to our exams officer [Coulthard.L@framdurham.com](mailto:Coulthard.L@framdurham.com) and the representative would need to provide ID and a copy of the email.

### **Year 8 and 9 Options**

Thank you for your support with the options process. We found students to be well-informed and confident when making their subject choices for September. A letter will soon be brought home with students to confirm their option choices for Key Stage 4. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions regarding the option choices.

### **Uniform**

I wrote to you in April regarding uniform and the date of our pop-up shop. A number of parents have contacted us asking for clarification on certain aspects of the uniform. We will keep this under review next year, and monitor Year 7 students for whom the uniform is compulsory. 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](http://www.framdurham.com)) details our new **uniform policy** and **uniform requirements**. Please read these documents carefully as they have been updated slightly to reflect parental queries. In particular:

- For older students converting to the new uniform early, we will accept a mix and match approach for 2018/19 (e.g. a new blazer with existing jumper)
- We have clarified the point that the slipover/jumper is not compulsory all year round (and even when it is, teachers will allow students in lessons to remove blazers or jumpers if it is warm). We will keep these rules under review.

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 14<sup>th</sup> 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.

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.

### **Extracurricular Activities**

I would like to draw your attention to the range of lunchtime and after school activities running in school during the summer term. There is a timetable on the "Student Life" section of our website, with activities including surfing, climbing, art, choir, coding and history. There is something for everyone and I hope you will encourage your child to take part in something.

If you have any queries about the above, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely



Andy Byers  
Headteacher