



St Edward's School

Unity - Achievement - Faith

08 December 2022

Year 10

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of the Autumn term, I would like to express our continued thanks for your on-going support of the school. This is the longest and darkest term for all schools, and the students have on the whole continued to maintain our high standards of behaviour and uniform and were a real credit to the school during the recent Ofsted inspection.

The next term brings with it the anticipation of the new year, with new goals, renewed ambitions, the promise of warmer weather and brighter days. To support our students in a smooth transition back into the school in January we would like to share a few updates with you. School attendance will remain a priority of the school, and a reminder that the schools target for all student's attendance is 96%. You are able to track your child's attendance via the SIMS parent app and if you are still struggling with this please do email the support email simsparenthelp@st-edwards.poole.sch.uk. Educational research into the impact of attendance shows that even an attendance drop of 10% can lead to a decline in outcomes at GCSE by 1 grade, so please do ensure that your child is in school, and liaise with the tutor if there are any barriers to this.

Please be aware that the school will close for Christmas early on Friday 16th December at 1:30pm. The Freedom Bus company are aware of this, so please make arrangements for this where necessary. Any student who receives a free school meal should pre-order their lunch for the 16th at break time in the canteen so that it can be collected. This final school day will also be Christmas Jumper day, and we are asking all students to make a donation of £2. The link for payment will be on Wisepay in due course. The aim for this day is to raise money for 3 charities both international, national and local. Should enough money be raised, Mr. Keene has agreed a festive surprise for the students.

Please remember that, if buying uniform for a girl, that you will need to purchase the full pleated skirt rather than the straight- or A-Line skirt from the school shop. In addition, in the school do hold a stock of high quality new-to-you uniform if needed.

As the cost-of-living increases, I understand the additional pressures that families may be facing. Therefore, I wanted to take this opportunity to highlight some of the support that might be available to you. The following link: '[Cost of living support](#)' for the National Cost of Living Hub, outlines the local and national schemes that could support you with rent, food, energy and more. If you are facing other financial difficulties that are impacting on your child's wellbeing or ability to access their education, then there may be other ways that we, as a school, can support you. Please make contact via enquires@st-edwards.poole.sch.uk should you wish to know more about this, and we will happily help.

Finally, I would like to thank you again for your support of our school and would like to wish you and your family a very happy Christmas and New Year.

Kind Regards

Mr. Michael Wood
Director of Learning (KS4)