

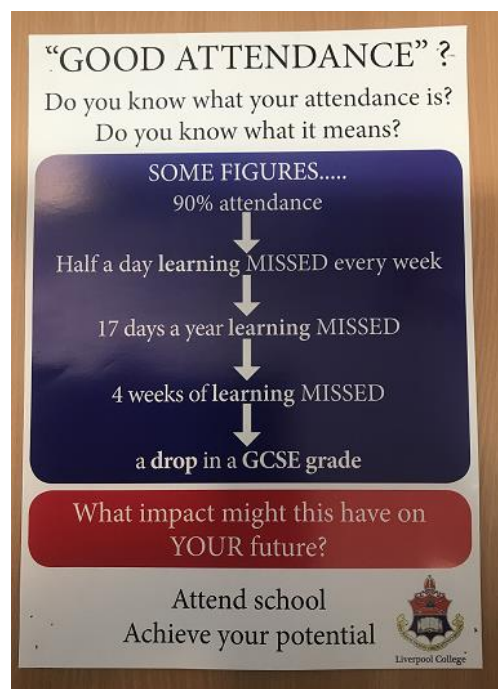
14 February 2020

Dear Parents

I regard my job as one which embraces the concept of 'Loco Parentis' in which I view my role less as a teacher and more as a parent of your sons and daughters whilst they are under our care and tutelage during the school day or in the case of the Boarding students, every half-term. Like any parent there is a range of emotions that we have about our wards. They are generally dominated by the feelings of pride and joy.

However, over the last two weeks a deep sense of intense frustration has been the overwhelming emotion. The simple fact is that a number of students are not embracing the opportunities that our great school is affording them. Indeed, some students believe that they have an innate right to do as they choose. There are a number of key areas that we need to see some improvement.

1. **Punctuality** to morning and afternoon Registration. A zero-tolerance approach will be taken with students facing a two-hour Friday detention if they receive two Lates.
2. **Deadlines:** If students fail to meet deadlines their work will not be marked and in the case of Year 12 we will review the feasibility of the students continuing to Year 13. The Year 13 students will suffer by not achieving their first choice offer.
3. **Absenteeism.** In many cases this is justified but too often we see some students having their absences supported by parents for the most nebulous of reasons. This must cease as days lost lead to depleted grades. Please see below the Government statistics for a 90% attendance record:



4. **Attendance to LCA+ Events & Activities.** Some students seem to believe that Chapel, Assembly, Lecture, Games, House Assembly Activities are *opt-in or opt-out*. This is not the case. If you attend Liverpool College you go to these timetabled events without hesitation or pause. I should not have to chastise, cajole and round up young adults who seem to find it fun to play 'cat and mouse' with their education. If students do not wish to be part of the character element of our education programme they should have gone elsewhere. School timings are:

Monday, Wednesday & Friday finish at 3.15pm
Tuesday & Thursday finish at 4.15pm
Students are expected to arrive at school by 8.20 am each morning.

5. **Girls' Uniform.** We have been extremely accommodating. Dr McNamara has worked with great diligence to create a uniform that appeals and yet the flagrant abuse of the school rules is evident by the majority of girls. This is the last chance for the girls to regulate their uniform. The uniform outline is attached to this newsletter. I am often perplexed how parents can let their daughters leave the house in such attire. I have arranged a meeting with a uniform stockist to decide upon a formalised uniform in the event that the girls cannot abide by our rules.

UNIFORM :: GIRLS

These guidelines have been drawn up with the collaboration of our female Prefect team, and the uniform rules will be enforced both by them and by members of staff. The dress code is smart and students must be well-presented at all times, as if for an office environment. Dressing inappropriately for school or failing to adhere to the rules below will result in sanctions or in being sent home to change.

Approved uniform Sixth Form girls	ALLOWED	NOT ALLOWED
Blouses	Must be plain, and black, white, grey or navy in colour. Must be smart and have sleeves, long or short.	Sleeveless or vest-tops. Cut-out shoulders or off the shoulder. Patterned blouses.
Jumpers/Cardigan	May be worn over blouse but BENEATH blazer jacket (i.e. does not replace blazer). Must be plain black, grey or navy in colour. V-neck or round neck.	Cut-out shoulders or off-the shoulder. Sloppy jumpers or cardigans. Polo neck jumpers. Patterned jumpers or cardigans.
Suits	Jacket and skirt/trousers should match in colour. Plain or pinstripe, black, grey or navy in colour.	Not wearing a jacket; blazer jacket must be worn at all times.

Skirts	Must match colour of jacket, and should ideally be tailored. Must be at a maximum of 10cm above the middle of the knee – anything above this would be considered inappropriate. Tights must be worn with the skirt, black, grey or navy.	Skirts must not be more than 10cm above the knee. No leather or leather-look skirts. Bare legs with skirts. Patterned tights.
Trousers	Must be smart and not too tight-fitting (i.e. resembling leggings). Must match jacket in colour.	Leggings NOT allowed under any circumstances. No leather or leather-look.
Shoes, socks and tights	Smart, flat shoes only. Socks can only be worn with trousers. Tights should be worn with skirts.	High heels. Casual shoes – e.g. trainers, pumps, Converse. Socks should not be worn with skirts. Patterned tights.
Accessories and general appearance	Scarves may be worn (fashion, not woolly). Subtle make-up and nails. Minimal jewellery – e.g. one necklace, one bracelet, one set of gold/silver stud earrings only. Hairstyles should be neat, tidy and sensible.	Woolly scarves may only be worn on way to and from school. If make-up/nails are regarded by staff as excessive, they should be removed. Facial piercings.

6. **Early departure for Lunch.** I am lucky or unlucky - depending upon your point of view, to have a vista that overviews the main exit and entrance of the Senior School. Too often I have to leave my lesson and ask students who are free one or two periods before lunch to return to study rooms to continue their preparations for their lessons. I do not believe a Sixth Form student needs a two-hour lunch break.
7. **Supervised Study.** During Tuesday and Thursday activities we have developed Intervention and Supervised Study Programmes for Year 13. On Thursday I did a survey and nearly 20% were unaccounted for. This was requested by Student Voice and I was disgusted by the fact that so many absconded, often with parental knowledge, née support.

I do not apologise for this rant as too often we see the detrimental effects of students not behaving according to our policies.

Trust has been breached on too many occasions and has become an unwelcome distraction. This is evidenced on Results Day when some students fail to achieve their desired outcomes and we see great sadness and disappointment.

To avoid a tragic Results Day, I would suggest that you reaffirm the above points. I hope that I have your full support as our common aim is that your son or daughter achieve their target grades and beyond.

If I do not see an improvement in the first week after half-term I will request the Principal to instruct the Sixth Form to remain on site during the school day and that no student will be permitted to leave during lunch.

Despite the rather negative commencement to this newsletter there has been much to exclaim over the week.

Football

The Footballers played against Ellesmere College. A report from Ben J:

Liverpool College's winning streak ended with a 3-2 loss to Ellesmere after a disappointing performance, ending in frustration.

Liverpool College began the game in full flow, and hit the front through Dan Fisher who nudged the home side in front within the opening minutes. Ellesmere found it difficult to settle in the opening third of the game, after the tempo and pace of the Liverpool College front three caused havoc.

After missing a few players from the squad this week, drastic changes had to be made to the starting line-up. A few mistakes from the back four, allowed Ellesmere to quickly grab an equaliser and a second before the half time whistle struck. The opposition were quick to capitalise on a few clumsy defensive mistakes.

Liverpool College spent most of the second period pinned in their half, struggling to string a set of passes together. Jago J's volley came close as a result of a flicked header from Dan G, but it wasn't enough to draw the College on level terms.

Pressure was mounting in this end-to-end game and a clipped ball from Max E saw Connor J and the Ellesmere keeper clash. Liverpool College were gifted a penalty and a path back into the game.

Ellesmere Port swiftly turned to jubilation as the keeper saved down low to his left from Jago J, but the rebound found its way into the back of the net. Momentum was high for the College after clawing their way back into the game. This didn't faze Ellesmere Port and their relentless mentality continued after the equaliser. The holding midfielder for the opposition found himself free on a corner and calmly headed them in front for the second time. Liverpool College were reduced to 10 men after a few needless tackles.

After a disappointing 3-2 loss last season to Ellesmere Port, Liverpool College were willing to put it all on the line on match day 8, but unfortunately a lack of motivation and quality on the day saw the game finish in disappointment.

Stars of the Week

Year 12 Ruari W

Year 13 Amelia S

Year 12 Joseph G, Holly B, Leo B, Luke T

Year 13 Mihai P, Millie I, Amelia S, Sean C, Linda P, Emily D, Ben J, Magdalena M, Steven X H, Matthew H, Samuel R

Careers

During this term, Mrs Drew, Assistant Careers Leader, jdrew@liverpoolcollege.org.uk has been conducting Careers interviews with our Year 12. Mrs Drew reports:...

I have enjoyed meeting with our Year 12 students this term and discussing their plans for the future. It is pleasing to hear that a large majority of the students all have a good idea of what their next step after A-Levels will be and they have already undertaken research about the grades they require. The students are aiming high and my discussions today have included questions about applications to Cambridge, Medicine and Investment Banking. I have highlighted the need for Work Experience to most students as they want their UCAS and apprenticeship applications to stand out from the rest. As always, I will pass on any opportunities that I receive.

**Congratulations to our Sixth Form Classicists at Stockport Grammar.
Winner of the teamwork prize!**



Cambridge Workshop

On Tuesday, Mr Sandy Mill from Cambridge University presented his workshop to our own Year 11 and Year 12 plus students from other schools in the area. Mr Mill focussed on applications to high tariff institutions, dispelling some of the myths surrounding 'Oxbridge' and detailing how A-Level choices can affect what subjects students are able to apply for at university. He also focussed on how to choose a course and university and what students can do, starting now, to help make their applications as strong as possible.



Classics Trip

The Classicists travelled to London. Eve W writes this report:

On Thursday, Year 11 and Year 13 Classicists embarked upon an interlude from revision to travel to London in order to visit the 'Troy: Myth and Reality' exhibition at the British Museum. After a long train journey, we arrived at Euston and made our way to the Museum. The exhibition was particularly relevant to our GCSE and A-Level specifications, with Year 11 studying the Odyssey and Year 13 the Iliad and the Aeneid. It was beneficial to our studies to see visual representations of what we had only read about such as the Shield of Achilles, as well as the many different variations of Homer and Virgil's works over time. The diversity in the exhibits reflected the vast complexities of the Homeric figures we have become acquainted with over the last two years, for example an amphora showing Achilles' heroic killing of Penthesilea stood in contrast with a Roman sarcophagus showing him overcome by grief after realising the death of Patroclus.

After the exhibition, we looked around the rest of the museum as Dr McNamara provided the Year 13s with knowledge about artefacts such as the (in)famous Elgin Marbles and the Rosetta Stone. We were then allowed free time to explore the museum ourselves, with the Year 13s seeking out figures such as Augustus and Seneca.

The day was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended, and we would like to extend our thanks to Dr McNamara for organising the trip.

Languages trip to Seville

I am constantly impressed by the efforts of our teaching staff to provide students with travel opportunities. In that vein, Mrs Gimeno and Mrs Kelly have travelled to Seville in Spain to submerge our Year 12 and Year 13 linguists in Spanish culture and language. Our thanks to both for giving their half-term holiday to educate our youngsters beyond the classroom.

Extended Project Qualification

***Deadline Today:** All Year 12 should have presented 2000 words to their House Mentor.
If they have not, parents will be contacted after the half-term.
An explanation will be required.

Tests

A-levels and BTEC courses are challenging and demand much rigour to ensure success. We will have another set of summative tests next half term.

I hope the number of below-target interviews I have had to conduct this term will be significantly reduced.

Have an enjoyable half-term.

Kind regards

Stephen Brady
Head of Sixth Form