

September 2011

Dear Parent / Guardian and Student,

I hope you had a good and relaxing summer break and are, like myself, looking forward to the new school year. I would like to extend a particularly warm welcome to our year 7 students and their parents and to all other 'new' students to our school.

Exam results

I am absolutely delighted to inform you that the students at Collegiate received the school's best ever GCSE results this summer. This is a reflection of the very hard work of all students and staff and superb support from parents. The school has made massive progress in every area this year and this can be seen, very clearly, in these wonderful results - which give young people real choices for their future. A large number of students achieved particularly well, with one student achieving 13 A*-C grades, 13 students achieving 12 or more GCSE grades and 52 students, from a year group of 150, achieving 12 or more A*-C grades.

81% of students achieved 5 or more grade A*-C

44% of students achieved 5 or more grade A*-C including English and Maths

51% of students achieved 2 or more A*-C grades in Science

100% of students achieved 1 or more GCSEs

100% of students achieved a GCSE in Maths

99% of students achieved a GCSE in English

Uniform

A full list of uniform requirements can be found on our website and they are unchanged from previous years. If for any reason your son / daughter is temporarily unable to comply with the regulations please send a note to school explaining the circumstances.

Policies

A number of policies, for example relating to the use of mobile phones, Assessment, behaviour, first aid etc are due to be reviewed by governors at this time and are available for you to view on our website. Governors and myself would be delighted to receive any feedback from parents with regard to these policies.

I am sure you will join me in being delighted at the way the vast majority of students behave in and around school and in their lessons. OfSTED and a number of other visitors to the school have commented on the excellent behaviour of our students. I would also like to thank you for attending an appointment with your child's personal tutor at the start of term – a meeting at which the school expectations were reconfirmed and your child's personal targets were discussed. May I take this opportunity to remind you that the school 'Expectations, Rewards and Consequences' and our behaviour policy are always available on the school website. May I also remind you that mobile devices such as phones and

ipods should not be seen or heard during lesson times at school, unless they are being used for learning as directed by the teacher.

Attendance

I am pleased to inform you that students at Collegiate attended well during the last academic year, which saw a 5% improvement in attendance to 93.7%. It is important that your child attends school if at all possible even if they are feeling slightly 'under the weather'. Students who have 100% attendance at October half term will, once again, receive an invitation to attend a heavily subsidised trip to Alton Towers during the half term holiday. Students will also receive VIVO miles automatically for every week of full attendance. As you will be aware, students can use these to purchase a number of items from the VIVO website.

Rewards

Students will continue to receive a variety of rewards for good attendance, attitude, reaching their target grades etc. The rewards range from verbal praise, to letters home, postcards home and VIVO miles. As you will be aware VIVO miles can be 'spent' on a number of different items on the VIVO website – the range of awards available has been extended following feedback from students.

Open Evening

School Open Evening is on Monday 10th October at 6.30pm and in order to prepare for this, students will finish school at 12.15 on that date. If this causes child care problems for you please do not hesitate to let us know and we can provide somewhere safe for your child to work or use the computers until normal school finishing time.

Staff Training Day

Friday 14th October is a staff training day and students are not required to be in school on that day.

Thank you for your support for your child's education and I look forward to continuing to work with you throughout the academic year.

Yours faithfully,



Ms C Ridgway BSc NPQH
Headteacher