



Friday 9 January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very Happy New Year. We very much hope that you had an enjoyable Christmas period and are delighted to welcome Year 9 back to the Spring Term.

The start of a new term is always a good opportunity to remind students of our World Class Basics. Being dressed and equipped for learning is key in encouraging the very best standards that are conducive to productive learning and readying our students for the world of work. The overwhelming majority of students meet these standards with pride and we encourage those that are falling a little short to develop the disciplines that will set them up for a really positive future. As always we look to parents and carers to support us with this and details of the uniform dress code can be found on the school website.

Attendance and punctuality play a crucial role in ensuring students maximise their learning opportunities. Research shows that missed learning can have a negative impact on GCSE success and again we rely on parent/carer support in encouraging students to attend and be punctual to school on a regular basis. The school attendance policy is available on the school website. This term we are introducing a punctuality target card for those students who are regularly falling short in getting to lessons on time with the aim of developing their personal responsibility to their own learning.

During tutor time this half term, Year 9 students will focus on exploring the impact of gambling. Within this context students will explore why young people gamble, the risks involved and how gambling-related harm can affect individuals and families. In addition, students will revisit the importance of wellbeing and the support available to them within their school setting as part of the national Children's Mental Health Week.

Early in the half term Year 9 will be able to explore the Post 16 opportunities that Warwickshire College can offer as we welcome one of their School Engagement Workers during the Year 9 Career Event. Additional opportunities to learn about apprenticeship pathways will be provided via curriculum lessons and tutor time during National Apprenticeship week.

Coming up this half term:

20 January Cyber STEM day: This is a great opportunity for Year 9 students to look at the significance of Cyber security and the careers it could lead to.

29 January Year 9 Post 16 Choices Career Event: Students will explore the Post 16 opportunities at Warwickshire College.

During the second half of this term we start the GCSE options process for Year 9. In early March there will be the Options launch assembly and the Year 9 Subject Evening on March 16. This will provide an opportunity for parents and carers to discuss option choices in detail with subject teachers and to seek guidance with the selection of the most suitable subjects for their child's future.

Online Safety Newsletter

This month's Online Safety Newsletter provides guidance for parents on supporting children to stay safe online. It includes advice on safe online gaming, updates on social media platforms and their

safety features, and practical tips on privacy, online communication and digital wellbeing, with links to further support. Please click [here](#) to view January's Online Safety Newsletter.

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

Kind regards

Sarah Barley Morey