



Friday 9 January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year to you all. I hope you and your families enjoyed a restful and enjoyable break and are feeling refreshed as we begin the new year. We are very much looking forward to what lies ahead and are confident that 2026 will be a positive and successful year for our Year 10 students, with many opportunities for learning and development.

As we begin the new term, I would like to remind families of the importance of our World Class Basics, particularly regarding school uniform and punctuality.

Maintaining high standards of uniform plays a key role in fostering pride, positive attitudes and a strong sense of community. Over the next two weeks, staff will be reinforcing uniform expectations following a rise in issues at the end of last term, including incorrect footwear and the absence of ties. These expectations will be addressed in line with our behaviour and engagement policy and reinforced through assemblies and tutor time. Full details of the student dress code can be found in our Uniform Policy, available on the school website under the Parents/Carers section.

Similarly, punctuality and regular attendance are essential for effective learning. We will be working closely with students to reinforce the importance of arriving on site before 8:45am to ensure they are prepared and on time for their first lesson of the day.

During tutor time this half term, Year 10 students will focus on exploring the impact of gambling. This will include discussions around why young people gamble, the risks involved and how gambling-related harm can affect individuals and families. Alongside this, students will continue to engage with current affairs as part of their understanding of life in the wider world.

Students will also take part in activities linked to Children's Mental Health Week, where we will highlight the importance of wellbeing and remind students of the support available both within NLS and through external organisations. Later in the half term, during National Apprenticeship Week, students will have opportunities to learn about a range of apprenticeship pathways linked to different subject areas.

Careers Fair – Thursday 15 January 2026

We are delighted to be hosting our annual Careers Fair for Year 10, supported by approximately 30 external education and employer providers. This event offers students the chance to engage with a wide variety of industries and representatives from local colleges. Students will be provided with a booklet to record key information, and the event will follow a 'speed dating' format, allowing them to ask questions and gain insight into possible post-16 pathways.

Online Safety Newsletter

Our January Online Safety newsletter has been published on the website on the Safeguarding tab – Online Safety - and you can also read it here [Online Safety Newsletter January 2026](#).

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.

A reminder that the second RE mock examination for Year 10 students takes place this term on **Wednesday 11 February**. This will provide students with further valuable GCSE preparation.

Subject Evening on 2 March - We warmly encourage all parents and carers to come in and meet your child's teachers. These meetings are a valuable opportunity to build strong partnerships between home and school, share important information about your child, and gain a clearer understanding of their learning, progress, and wellbeing. When parents and teachers work together, it helps create consistency, support, and high expectations for children, which has a positive impact on both confidence and achievement. Your involvement shows your child that their education matters and that we are all working together to help them succeed. A letter will be sent nearer the time with the details regarding how to book appointments.

Revision Evening on Wednesday 15 April - We are pleased to invite parents and carers to our Revision Evening, designed to help you guide and support your child as they prepare for upcoming examinations. The evening will offer practical advice, strategies, and ideas on how you can support effective revision at home and help build your child's confidence and resilience. There will be presentations from Mr Atkins, as well as from the Heads of English, Maths, RE and Science, who will share subject-specific guidance and expectations. We strongly encourage you to attend on 15th April between 17.45 and 19.15, as this will be a valuable opportunity to gain insight into how best to support your child during this important time.

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,



Alan Boyes
Year 10 Lead