



Pendle Vale

Pendle Vale College, Oxford Road, Nelson, Lancashire BB9 8LF

Tel: 01282 682240 **Fax:** 01282 682289

Email: reception@pendlevale.lancs.sch.uk

Web: www.pendlevale.lancs.sch.uk

Head: Mr S Wilson BA(Hons) NPQH

9 September 2016

Dear Parent/Carer

Although we are only a week into the new academic year the feeling in College is very upbeat and positive and the students have, generally, come back into College in an encouraging good frame of mind and ready for the start of a new academic year.

We have had our best GCSE results ever last year which we are thrilled about particularly as there has been a decrease of 3% in examination results at National level. Staff and students are to be congratulated on this success, which is a reward for an incredible amount of hard work, commitment and strong work ethic displayed last year.

In my assemblies to all year groups I have emphasised that I expect even better and that they must be ambitious and commit themselves to doing the best they can from day one. My optimism is very high that the culture we have and continue to develop at Pendle Vale College will ensure we go from strength to strength.

Other things I have emphasised to the students and would like to inform you about and seek your support on relate to

- Punctuality/Attendance
- Uniform

Punctuality/Attendance

Students have been told that the latest they should walk through the Level 1 door is 8.40am. From 8.45am the door on Level 1 will not open from the outside. Site staff have been instructed to lock the bottom gate at 8.50am. After 8.45am students will have to go to the Level 3 entrance where they will be met by a member of the Senior Leadership Team. Their name will be recorded and a sanction put in place. In the case of repeat offenders parents will be contacted and if required asked to come in to College for a meeting to resolve an issue that has an impact on their child's learning.

A high level of attendance at College is crucial. Research evidence clearly demonstrates that low attendance has a seriously detrimental impact on examination performance. I would like attendance for all students to be 95% or more. This means that a child should not have more than 9 individual days off College in the year. Please support us and your child by ensuring they come to College every day.

Uniform

In my letter sent to parents in July I emphasised the importance of students wearing appropriate footwear to College and outlined what was unacceptable footwear. I am pleased to see that the vast majority of students are wearing appropriate footwear. However there are still some students who are wearing shoes that do not meet

Think Pendle Vale, Think Achievement



the criteria of 'plain black, without sports or other logos. Girls should wear flat shoes with no additional decoration. No boots.' We have issued letters to these students asking these to be changed and would appreciate parents support with this.

Our Uniform Code (page 15 in the Student Planner) also clearly states that with regards to Trousers that 'no jeans, leggings or skinny trousers' are permitted. Unfortunately many girls and some boys are wearing skinny trousers. To this end I am allowing three weeks for appropriate trousers for College to be purchased please. As from Monday 3 October firm action will be taken against students not adhering to our clear and reasonable uniform guideline. I hope you will regard this as a long enough period of time but please do not hesitate to let us know if this presents any difficulties.

I am also experiencing some problems with a couple of uniform suppliers supplying blazers that are not Trutex i.e. Shafis and Moonline. Shafis say this is an error and will swap these immediately. Moonline's stance is that they will not exchange or refund. If you are purchasing a new blazer please insist it is Trutex and do not pay for a Westwood blazer. We would also recommend you purchase from our recommended suppliers details of which are on the College website.

I apologise for a long letter at such an early stage of a new academic year but as Headteacher I am very ambitious to make Pendle Vale College the best it can be and to repay your faith in entrusting five years of your child's life with us. I hope you and your child share the same high level of ambition and continue to work with us. Thank you in advance for your support and co-operation.

Yours sincerely



Mr S Wilson
Headteacher
Pendle Vale College

'Think Pendle Vale, Think Achievement'