



Cookstown High School

Combined Grammar & Secondary School

3 September 2021

Dear Parent

I hope that you have enjoyed a restful and relaxing summer break with your family and friends. We have been delighted to welcome pupils back to the High School. Over the last week pupils have had successful induction sessions, and pupils have settled well into the new academic year. There is a wonderful sense of a new beginning and a fresh start with energy and excitement in anticipation of what can be accomplished academically and personally in the year ahead. I am delighted to announce another year of impressive examination performance at both GCSE and A level; results continue to be well above national expectations and these should inspire and motivate all of our pupils to achieve their personal best.

Despite the on-going challenges and restrictions of the coronavirus, we endeavour to ensure that the educational provision and support at Cookstown High School is strong. In order to keep everyone safe, please encourage your child/ren to adhere to guidance. Lateral flow tests are available for all pupils to provide further reassurance to our whole school community.

Unfortunately, we are unable to hold our parent information evenings for Year 8, Year 11, and Year 13 in the usual way; however, we will put a recording of the respective information evenings on the school website so that you have the salient information for the year. Year 8 can look forward to a fun filled team building day on 21st September which will help to build last friendships and get to know staff. We are recommencing extra-curricular activity provision, please see our school website for details. You will also find key dates for this academic year on the school website.

I would also like to thank you for your invaluable support in ensuring that our students continue to maintain the very high standards and expectations that we set here at the High School, particularly around attendance, conduct, uniform and punctuality. Uniform is an essential way of preparing our students for adult life and encourages pupils to take pride and a sense of belonging to Cookstown High School. The guidelines and expectations for both behaviour and uniform are found in your child's homework diary. This partnership work between home and school is vital to ensure high standards in all aspects of behaviour and academic achievement, to facilitate effective learning.

We very much appreciate your practical support for school, and we are grateful to parents who have supported via the school fund. This year, school has provided two beautiful new seating areas for pupils as well as improved IT facilities to support your child's learning. Without this support, we simply would be unable to have these developments. There is still time to support the school fund, if you have not yet already done so.

Please note that Buses 11 and 9 will not be running in the Orritor area on Friday 11th September due to the Cookstown 100.

Yours sincerely

Miss G J Evans
Principal