



Thriftwood

School and College

website: www.thriftwoodschool.com

20th September 2024

Dear parents / carers

RE: Attendance / Annual Reviews / Uniform and Personal care

As we settle into the new school year, I am writing to provide some updates and reminders of key information:

Attendance

In line with the National directive from the Government, we are working hard to ensure that all our learners are in school/college every day. We recognise that positive behaviour and good attendance are essential in order for our young people to get the most of their school experience, including their attainment, wellbeing and wider life chances. We will always work in partnership with parents and carers and other agencies to ensure that the young people who attend our schools are supported to attend regularly.

We will authorise time out of school/college for an event that is unique and of significant emotional, educational or spiritual value to the child and at the discretion of the headteacher. The fundamental principles for defining 'exceptional' are events that are "rare, significant, unavoidable and short". By 'unavoidable' we mean an event that could not reasonably be scheduled at another time, outside of school term time, regardless of who has planned or paid for the holiday or absence (including grandparents or other family or friends).

Uniform / jewellery / personal grooming

We have updated our uniform policy to include expectations around jewellery and personal appearance. We recommend that learners do not wear jewellery to school or college. If jewellery gets lost or stolen Thriftwood cannot cover the cost for a replacement. There could be a risk of jewellery getting caught and causing injury, especially in the case of piercings and hoop earrings.

If jewellery is to be worn, it is limited to one small plain ring and small stud earrings. These must be removed or covered for PE lessons. No other jewellery or piercings (including facial piercings or tongue studs) are permitted. Persistent breaking of these rules will result in jewellery items being confiscated until the end of the half term.

Learners in years 7 to 9 should not wear make-up and in Years 10 onwards it should be discreet. False nails must not be worn to school/college. Fake eyelashes (strip or extensions) are not allowed. No extreme hair styles or fashion colours.

Annual reviews

We hold most of our annual reviews in the autumn term, and you will shortly be receiving an invitation to this. These meetings are extremely important; you will work with your child's teacher / tutor to set targets for the year and discuss their future. If you are unable to make the time / date given we will endeavour to rearrange if possible.

Thank you for your continued support as we work together to provide our pupils with a safe school/college environment.

I hope you are all enjoying the late September sunshine!

Yours faithfully

Georgina Pryke
Headteacher

Executive Headteacher - School & College: Mrs Georgina Pryke BSc (Hons) PGCE NPQH

School Lead: Mrs Ruth Saban
Slades Lane, Galleywood, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 8RW
Telephone: 01245 266880

College Lead: Ms Lisa Walker
Fox Crescent, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 2BN
Telephone: 01245 262779

