



September 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to what I know will be another very exciting year at Finham Park 2. This letter is to inform you of some of the most important information for the first term. I hope you find it useful.

Progress

Congratulations to our new Year 7s on their excellent SATs results. We are looking forward to seeing how talented you are over the forthcoming weeks, months and years! The majority of our current students also made very good progress last year. This was due to their hard work, positive attitude, excellent teaching and support from parents. Well done to all!

High expectations: homework, behaviour, uniform and attendance

At Finham Park 2, we have the highest expectations in terms of academic standards; behaviour; uniform; attendance and punctuality.

I hope you will continue to give me your full support in ensuring that your child attends school punctually every day, and that they are fully equipped and prepared for their lessons. In particular, I would ask that students wear the Finham Park 2 uniform with pride at all times, both in school and on their journey to and from school.

One of the best ways to support your child's learning is to ensure they are in school every day and on time. School starts at 8:40am – students should be *in their mentor rooms* by this time. Our minimum attendance target is 96%. However, if your child is sick, let us know by contacting the school office on the first day of illness.

Homework really helps

We see homework as a vital part of the learning process. Homework allows students to reinforce their understanding of work they have covered in the classroom as well as enabling them to develop their independent skills, so vital for students to achieve both in school, at university, in work and beyond. Please support us by checking our **new parent FROG app** and encouraging them to do their very best.

Food and drink to help learning

We encourage our students to eat healthily as this can have a positive effect on learning: fruit and water are great at helping students with their learning. Students are allowed to drink water in lessons (except where it is unsafe) and they have opportunities throughout the day to fill up their water bottles. Students can purchase food from the Refectory before school (from 8:00am), and in addition in Edward's Keep Food Hall at break time and lunchtime. The following food items are not allowed in school: chewing gum, energy drinks, large amount of sweets.

Times of the day

School opens at 8:00am- students should not be on site before this time. All students are expected to take part in at least one OOSHL activity a week. Year 11 students are expected to attend all intervention classes Tuesday – Thursday, 3:00-4:00pm.

Safety

Travelling to school:

However, your child chooses to travel to school please ensure it is safe and is respectful to our neighbours.

Bicycle – Bicycle shelters are available at the front and back of the school. We expect students to wear a helmet to and from school. During the winter months lights and high visibility clothing should be worn.

Walking – Torrington Avenue can be very busy. Please remind your child to cross at the crossings available near Wolfe Road and be aware of the dangers of traffic.

Car – Parents are able to drop their child off on site as there is a drop off area in the car park. However, this can be very busy at peak times. If you do choose this option, please be careful when driving onto the site as students may be crossing and please be respectful of other drivers. Also, can parents please not park on the pavement near school along Torrington Avenue as it can slow down traffic and be dangerous for our students.

Contacting the school

Staff can be contacted by email – a list of email addresses are available on our website (we cannot guarantee answering messages through Facebook and Twitter). We are also happy to welcome parents/carers into the school. If you need to meet with a particular member of staff in person, please make an appointment by calling the school office on 02477 710720. If you do come onto the school site, please go to the main reception which is located at the front of the building.

If you are not sure who to see, usually your first point of call will be your child's mentor.

New staff

There are some exciting staff additions to announce:

Our new staff:

Miss Jones – Teaching Assistant

Miss Roberts – Teacher of P.E & R.E

Miss Beahan – TA Apprentice

Miss Powell – TA Apprentice

Miss McCarthy – TA Apprentice

Ms Daffern – Teacher of Humanities

Ms Dhadday – Teacher of Mathematics

Ms Mack – Teacher of Science

Miss Thompson – Teacher of IT

Ms Woodhouse – Teacher of Science

Mr Yin – Teacher of Mandarin

Ms Ahmed – Teacher of Mathematics

Mr Ditch – Deputy Headteacher

Ms Tyrrell – Teacher of Mathematics

Ms Gardner – Business Admin Apprentice

Ms Gawlikowska – Art Technician

Ms Doyle-Davies – Catering Assistant

Dates for your diary

Please keep the attached list in a safe place for future reference – it gives details of term/holiday dates and key dates throughout the school year. May I please remind you not to book holidays during term time as they will not be authorised and are extremely disruptive to your child's education.

Are your contact details up to date?

It is extremely important that the school is able to get in touch with parents/carers easily on a day-to-day basis. If your details have changed, please let the office know.

I look forward to working with you all to ensure another successful year for our whole school community.

Yours sincerely



Russell Plester
Headteacher

2019 Important Calendar Dates

12 September	Year 7 and 10 school photos
19 September	Meet the Mentor – OOSHL cancelled
25 September	Open Evening – Early finish at 1:25pm
10 October	Year 11 GCSE Aiming for Success Evening
18 October	Last day of half term (school finishes at normal time)
19 - 27 October	HALF TERM HOLIDAY
28 October	First day of half term
31 October	Year 9 & 10 Aiming for Success Evening
7 November	Sixth Form Open Evening – Early finish at 1:25pm
15 November	Children in Need – non-uniform day
20 December	Last day of term – Early finish at 1:25pm Christmas Jumper Day
21 Dec – 5 Jan	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

2020

6 January	MAT Training Day – school closed to students
7 January	Training Day – school closed to students
8 January	First day of Spring Term
9 January	Year 8 Options Information Evening
16 January	Year 11 Parents' Evening – OOSHL cancelled
30 January	Year 8 Parents' Evening – OOSHL cancelled
21 February	Last day of half term (school finishes as normal)
22 Feb – 1 March	HALF TERM HOLIDAY
2 March	First day of half term
5 March	Year 9 Parents' Evening – OOSHL cancelled
13 March	Sports Relief – non-uniform day
26 March	Year 7 Parents' Evening – OOSHL cancelled
30 March – 3 April	Year 10 Work Experience week
9 April	Last day of term (school finishes at normal time)
10 April	Bank Holiday – school closed
11 – 26 April	EASTER HOLIDAY
27 April	First day of Summer Term
8 May	Bank Holiday – school closed
22 May	Last day of half term (school finishes as normal)
23 – 31 May	HALF TERM HOLIDAY
1 June	First day of half term
4 June	Year 10 Parents' Evening – OOSHL cancelled
1 July	New Year 7 Transition Day & New Year 7 Parents' Information Evening
14 July	Sports Day
17 July	FOF2 non-uniform Day
	Last day of term – Early Finish at 1:25pm
20 & 21 July	Disaggregated Training Days – school closed to students

More details and updates will be shared throughout the year via our website – www.finhampark2.co.uk