



September 2021

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 first successful week in school. We are looking forward to seeing how talented you are over the forthcoming weeks, months and years! Our Year 11 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%. If your child is unwell, let us know by using the **Studybugs App** on the first day of illness. You can register or download the App here <https://studybugs.com/about/parents>.

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 **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 ways to help 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 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 8:20am- 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 may also have specific support before or after school which they will be expected to attend. This will give the best chance of success possible.

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. Students must wear a helmet and should lock their bike up. 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 do not drop students off on the main drive as this can cause congestion. Also, can parents please not park along Torrington Avenue as it can be dangerous for our students, or on Alan Marcell Close as it can prevent residents from returning home.

Public transport- Students will be wearing their Finham Park 2 uniform and so are ambassadors for our school. Their behaviour must be impeccable at all times.

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 so please do not use social media to get in touch). At this moment, we ask that parents/carers only come onto site if an appointment has been made with a member of staff. We ask that parents/carers who do have an appointment go straight to main reception to sign in. To make an appointment, please call the school office on 02477 710720 or email the member of staff you wish to meet directly. If you are not sure who to see, usually your first point of call will be your child's mentor or subject teacher

New staff

There are some exciting staff additions to announce:

Mr Harrison – Teacher of Mandarin
Mr Muhammad – Teacher of Science
Ms Dear – Teacher of Humanities
Mr Herman – Teacher of Maths
Mr Khan – TA Apprentice
Mr Conlan – Pastoral Support

Miss Thomas – Teacher of Science
Miss O'Hagan – Teaching Assistant
Miss Smith – Learning Assistant
Ms Hewitt – Catering Assistant
Miss Bolton – Business Admin Apprentice

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

2021 Important Calendar Dates

13 th September	Year 7, 10 & 11 school photos
23 rd September	All Years - Meet the Mentor (online)
30 th September	Open Evening – early finish at 12:30pm
7 th October	Year 11 Parents' Information Evening (online)
21 st October	Year 9 GCSE Information Evening (online)
22 nd October	Last day of half term (school finishes at normal time)
23 rd – 31 st October	HALF TERM HOLIDAY
1 st November	First day of half term
4 th November	Year 13 Parents' Evening
11 th November	Sixth Form Open Evening
12 th November	Children in Need – non-uniform day
26 th November	Disaggregated Training Day – School Closed to Students
2 nd December	Year 12 Parents' Evening
17 th December	Last day of term – Early finish at 12:30pm Christmas Jumper Day
18 th Dec – 3 rd Jan	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

2022

4 th January	MAT Training Day – School Closed to Students
5 th January	First day of Spring Term
6 th January	Year 8 Options Information Evening
13 th January	Year 11 Parents' Evening
27 th January	Year 8 Parents' Evening
18 th February	Last day of half term (school finishes at normal time)
19 th Feb – 27 th March	HALF TERM HOLIDAY
28 th February	Moderation Day – School Closed to Students
1 st March	First day of half term
3 rd March	Year 9 Parents' Evening
18 th March	Sports Relief – non-uniform day
31 st March	Year 7 Parents' Evening
28 th March – 1 st April	Year 10 Work Experience week
8 th April	Last day of term (school finishes at normal time)
9 th – 24 th April	EASTER HOLIDAY
25 th April	First day of Summer Term
2 nd May	Bank Holiday – school closed
27 th May	Last day of half term (school finishes at normal time)
28 th May – 5 th June	HALF TERM HOLIDAY
6 th June	First day of half term
9 th June	Year 10 Parents' Evening
6 th July	New Year 7 Transition Day & New Year 7 Parents' Information Evening
19 th July	Sports Day
21 st July	Last day of term – Early Finish at 12:30pm
22 nd & 25 th July	Bank Holiday & Disaggregated Training Day – school closed to students

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