



# WILLIAM FARR

C of E Comprehensive School

Our ref: ESH/SXG

October 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian

**Year 10**

**The New Term - Autumn 2022**

I wish you all a warm welcome back to the start of our GCSE journey. Year 10 students have come back with a sense of enthusiasm for their option subjects and the next two years of hard work to achieve their potential.

The focus this year is on positivity and rewards and along with 'Fab Friday' emails we now have positive referrals, which teachers can give students for exceptional work, effort, community spirit, etc. These are collated by tutors, they can achieve certificates for achieving set numbers, there are badges and once a half term we will have a raffle and a student will be randomly selected (each referral counts as an electronic raffle ticket) to win a £25 Amazon voucher.

We will also be offering rewards trips each term to students who hit specific criteria:

- All 1s and 2s for effort in the datapoints
- Over 95% attendance
- No incident slips

They will need to get 2 of the 3 to be eligible to be invited. We will be booking places like Jump Inc, Playzone, etc. for after-school activities. More information to come on this.

You will see your child doing more homework and there are more opportunities to read around their subjects and broaden their learning. I know this can add an extra strain, especially if your child has lots of extra-curricular commitments so please monitor and get in touch if you think it is becoming an issue.

If you continue to be concerned about your child's emotional wellbeing, please do get in touch. Healthy Minds Lincolnshire have also created several online workshops available for instant access on their website. It is also normal, as we start Key Stage 4 courses, for students to think about their future. We address next steps later in the PSHE year, but all students can access a careers interview by requesting one via their tutor or emailing Mrs Roberts: [c.roberts@williamfarr.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:c.roberts@williamfarr.lincs.sch.uk)

Our main PSHE focus this term is issues surrounding health and the law. Students are exploring hate crimes, radicalisation, teenage parenting, alcohol and drugs, amongst other prevalent topics, including vaping. It is illegal for students to buy vapes and they are banned items in school. Any incident involving possession of a vape in school will be dealt with in line with school policy. Please talk to your child about the consequences of this.

Our school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of our students is of paramount importance. With this in mind, I would like to remind you that we will not tolerate any child-on-child abuse, which can include bullying, physical abuse, sexual violence and harassment and misogyny. We do not accept excuses such as 'banter', 'part of growing up', 'it was for a laugh'. We do not accept body shaming, sexting (consensual and non-consensual sharing of nude images and semi-nude images and videos). All reports of any of the above will be investigated and dealt with in line with school policy.

Students' online behaviour continues to be a priority and we do a lot of work educating students on keeping themselves safe, but we would appreciate parents and carers monitoring their child's online presence and to report to the police any concerns. Can I remind you that we are an Operation Encompass school, which means we are alerted, confidentially, if the police have been involved with a domestic abuse incident at the home of one of our students. If you would like any further information on this, or any other safeguarding matters, please contact



the Designated Safeguarding Lead - Mrs Bates, Assistant Headteacher, or Miss Griffiths, the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead, in school.

Here is a reminder of the expectations of William Farr School, which help us to create an outstanding climate for learning:

- Homework should be recorded in diaries and signed by parents weekly.
- Students should always bring basic equipment to school – pen, pencil, rubber, ruler, coloured pencils, calculator, French dictionary (if appropriate), apron. Equipment should not be shared at this time and only equipment for that day should be brought in. All belongings to be taken home daily.
- Students must remain seated at all times when travelling on the school bus and wear seat belts if provided.
- Term-time holidays cannot be authorised unless in exceptional circumstances.
- Mobile phones are not allowed in school.
- Students must wear the correct school uniform at all times. Students will continue to carry a uniform card in their blazer pocket at all times, which will be used to record any uniform infringements. As a reminder, skinny trousers/jeans are not permitted, nor are trainers or boots, unless accompanied by a doctor's note. Skirts should be worn approximately 4 fingers in depth above the knee. School shoes must be black, of a solid construction and polishable. Only 1 earring is permitted in each ear (there should be no other visible body piercings – nose and tongue). Nail varnish is not permitted, nor is excessive make-up.

Parents' Evenings will continue online and the date is set for **15 November 2022**. Details will be sent out nearer the time. We will also be starting the work experience programme this year; and our aim is that students will complete a work experience placement, which at the moment is planned for the Autumn of Year 11.

We have a number of students who suffer with severe nut allergies in school. Therefore, students must not bring nuts into school. This includes nuts in packed lunches and snack bars.

We have a huge volume of lost property made up of unnamed items: Everything from prescription glasses to expensive winter coats and house keys. Please will you ensure that all items belonging to your child are named. This will ensure that we can return it to your child if it is misplaced. Lost property which is unnamed will be kept for 6 months and then taken to charity/jumble sale. Lost property is situated in a cabin outside the main entrance and is open on Monday/Tuesday/Thursday 8.45 – 9.00am and Wednesday/Friday 9.05 – 9.20am. If your child has lost any property in the summer term or since the start of this term, please encourage them to collect it during the above times.

Should you wish to contact me, I will endeavour to respond to all concerns on the day they are made. However, I have teaching commitments, in addition to my role as Head of Year, so this may not always be possible. Please feel free to contact me via email: [e.hanson@williamfarr.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:e.hanson@williamfarr.lincs.sch.uk). For subject-specific queries, please contact Heads of Department directly.

I look forward to working with you in partnership again this year.

Yours faithfully

**Mrs E Hanson**  
**Head of Year 10**