



WILLIAM FARR

C of E Comprehensive School

Our ref: LVS/TA

May 2026

Year 7

Dear Parent/Guardian

Summer Term Letter

Welcome to our final term of Year 7. I hope you and your family had a wonderful Easter break. The summer term is an exciting one, with many opportunities for our year group to come together:

- Year 7 'Be Safe Day' – Tuesday 9 June
- Lincolnshire Show (end of year trip) – Wednesday 18 June
(Further details will be sent via MCAS, with payment through ParentPay)
- Sports Day – Friday 19 June

I continue to be extremely proud of the achievements of the year group. Collectively, they have achieved an incredible 370,000 house points, with some pupils already being awarded their Gold Certificate (2,000 points). Student achievements are celebrated regularly in assemblies. It is really important that certificates are kept safe for the end of Key Stage 3 Celebration event, held at the end of Year 9.

I am always interested in hearing about pupils' achievements outside of school too, so please do share anything of note.

However, I do have an area of concern that I would like to bring to your attention. I would politely request that all parents check their child's online presence regularly. We have seen an increasing number of issues within the year group that either revolve around, or stem from, online behaviour. Form group chats appear to be a particular concern. These are not set up, moderated, or affiliated with the school in any way. They are the responsibility of parents/guardians to monitor and decide whether their child should be using them.

All Year 7 pupils are under 13, so technically they should not be using apps such as WhatsApp. However, we understand the reality and recognise that they need guidance in how to use online spaces responsibly. TikTok is also presenting challenges. We often see pupils 'joining in' without considering the impact of comments, likes, or reactions. We hope to work in partnership with you to support them in making better choices.

We are also seeing an increase in the use of hurtful language, including pupils telling others to harm themselves, and the use of the term 'gay' as an insult. While this may not always be intentional, it is important that pupils understand why such language is inappropriate.

We address online behaviour regularly in school through PSHE, tutor time, assemblies, and curriculum subjects such as English and RS. Your support at home is greatly appreciated. This is a complex online world that young people are navigating, and they need guidance.

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Last term in PSHE, we covered vaping, alcohol, relationships, and self-esteem. This term, the focus is on community and tolerance, including:

- The Equality Act 2010
- British Values
- Multicultural Britain
- Race, gender, and identity
- Responsibility

All of these topics link to being a good citizen, with a strong emphasis on kindness and acceptance. This also ties in with our Be Safe Day in June.

I would like to remind you that mobile phones are not permitted in school. It is well documented that social media can contribute to bullying behaviour.

Please also ensure that fidget-style toys, or any items that may cause distraction, are kept at home. Students who would benefit from a fidget to support focus are provided with appropriate resources by the SEN Department.

I am very proud that the standard of dress and uniform among our students is high, and I thank you for your continued support. The school's Uniform Policy is available on the website. Please note that the following are not permitted:

- Trainers (including Nike Air Force 1s)
- False/gel nails
- False eyelashes
- Excessive make-up
- Fake tan
- Nose piercings

Each term, we focus on the school's values. This term, our focus is responsibility and friendship. At the end of the term, the tutor team and I nominate students for the prestigious Governors' Award, recognising those who consistently demonstrate these values. I am incredibly proud of those who have already achieved this.

As always, please do not hesitate to get in touch. My email is l.starbuck@williamfarr.lincs.sch.uk. As part of our commitment to staff workload and wellbeing, I aim to respond within three working days. Please note that staff are not expected to respond outside of working hours (9.00am–4.00pm) or during school holidays. Emails should be written in line with the Parent Code of Conduct, available on the school website.

I look forward to working in partnership with you this term. I will be in touch again when I hand over the reins in May to the next Head of Year as I move on to my new role.

Yours faithfully



Ms L Starbuck
Head of Year 7