

Friday 9th September

Dear Parents and Carers

RE: Welcome to the Autumn Term

It has been lovely to see all your young people back in school this week, with the start of the Autumn term most definitely signalled to us by the change in weather! The children have adapted well to their new groups, and I am very excited to see the progress I know they will make over the coming year. For those families joining us a very special welcome to you.

New staff

We have several new staff joining us this term and it already feels like they have been with us for a while. I am very excited at the potential of talents and experiences that they can bring to The Stable School. At the Gatehouse we have Andy Fulker – Head of School, Elizabeth Morillo-Hall – Science Tutor, Karen Clarkson – Exams Officer, Amy Hunter and Dom Silvestri as Learning Support Practitioners. At the Barn we have Luke Tyler, Megan McCloud, Alana Zuchold, Jess Fidalgo and Janine Michael-Chebli as Learning Support Practitioners.

School development

As the school moves into a new academic year, we have a variety of key developments we will be implementing across the school that will further improve the quality of provision your child receives. I have attached to this letter a copy of our school development priorities for you to read through with your child. Your child will have many opportunities throughout the year to discuss and explore these developments with their class staff and Head of School.

GCSE results

During the summer term our Year 11 students sat a range of GCSEs, working extremely hard in the lead up to them and managing the expectations of the exams with bravery and determination. I am delighted to share with you that there was a 100% pass rate, and a significant number of grades were above a level 4.

School picnic and gathering

At the end of the summer term our newly formed Parent Interest Group had its first meeting. They would like to invite The Stable School community to a gathering on **Friday 16th September**, from 5pm, at Christchurch Harbour playground and park. If the weather allows, please do bring a picnic and something to sit on. This will be an opportunity for children, parents, carers, staff and families of each to meet, relax and /or play games etc. If you would like any further information about this gathering Tess Tyler is coordinating it via the parents' WhatsApp group and Facebook page.

Mobile phones

I would like to take this opportunity to share with you our expectations and policy relating to the student use of mobile phones in school. We have a duty of care to all, that we ensure everyone is safe in school. Mobile phones will be collected in and stored in a class safe by 9.00am each morning. Phones will be returned at 3.00pm each day. Year 11 will be allowed their phones between 12-12.30. If your child doesn't hand their phone in, then a phone call home will be made, and your child will not be allowed to bring their phone into school the following day. I would like to thank you for your cooperation in safeguarding your child by adhering to our mobile phone policy. Please see the website or ask if you require a copy of this policy.

The Barn campus
12 Dudmoor Farm Road
Christchurch
BH23 8ES



The Gatehouse campus
247 Fairmile Road
Christchurch
BH23 2LH

Student absence and attendance

It was such a positive start to the new term with 96% of children attending school. We would like to maintain and exceed such a great start. The Department for Education has published updated guidance through the Keeping Children Safe In Education document, outlining our commitment to you as a school in addressing attendance issues and the expectations the school has from you as Parents and Carers in supporting your child's attendance. Linda has provided an attachment to this letter giving you further information on attendance, safeguarding and welfare.

Inset days

Please note we have now confirmed our two additional Inset days as **October 31st, 2022** and **February 20th 2023**. The Stable School will be closed to all children on these days to enable the staff to attend school development training.

Thank you for your continued support and I look forward to seeing you at the various events of the Academic Year ahead; and in the meantime, do contact your child's Head of School, if we can be of assistance. Dave Parry – The Barn dave@thestableschool.co.uk Andy Fulker – The Gatehouse andy@thestableschool.co.uk

With Best Wishes

Beth

Headteacher