

16th December 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

As we approach the Christmas holidays I wanted to take an opportunity to clarify our expectations when students return in earnest on 10th January 2022.

Uniform



The uniform has not changed at The Garibaldi School for a number of years. The policy is clear and is always available to view on the school website. Please click on the link below:

<https://www.garibaldischool.co.uk/page.php?p=uniform>

As a polite and quick reminder all students should be wearing The Garibaldi School blazer, plain white shirt, black trouser or skirt with plain black tights. No trainers should be worn and shoes must be formal in design. A Garibaldi School jumper is available as an optional item, ideal for the colder winter months ahead. Hoodies should not be worn as coats or under blazers; students doing so will be asked to remove them. Coloured lanyards have become an important practical aspect of the school uniform. These should be worn by all students at all times.

Some concerns have been raised about the length of skirts. These concerns have not only been raised by members of the school community but also by members of the wider community within which the school sits. We have added to the school website some guidance on skirt length. Skirts must, as a minimum, come close to the knee. Some students are wearing skirts that, although of an appropriate length, are sitting too high on their waist which therefore makes them too short and inappropriate. We welcome your support in speaking to your child about skirt length or providing a skirt that meets school expectations.

We will, as always look to work with parents/carers where there are issues with uniform but please note that we will implement sanctions in the event of a student failing to adhere to the uniform policy.

Breaks and Lunch

When we return on 10th January 2022 we will be making some slight changes to timings of break and lunch. This does not affect every year group and has no impact on the school day or lessons nor the amount of lesson time between break and lunch.

Monday to Thursday

	Current Break	Current Lunch	From 10th January	From 10th January
Year 7	9.55am	11.50am	10.45am	12.40pm
Year 8	9.55am	11.50am	9.55am	11.50am
Year 9	10.45am	12.40pm	10.45am	12.40pm
Year 10	10.45am	12.40pm	9.55am	11.50am
Year 11	10.45am	12.40pm	10.45am	12.40pm
Year 12	10.45am	12.40pm	10.45am	12.40pm
Year 13	10.45am	12.40pm	10.45am	12.40pm

Friday

	Current Break	Current Lunch	From 10th January	From 10th January
Year 7	9.30am	11.25am	10.20am	12.15pm
Year 8	9.30am	11.25am	9.30am	11.25am
Year 9	10.20am	12.15pm	10.20am	12.15pm
Year 10	10.20am	12.15pm	9.30am	11.25am
Year 11	10.20am	12.15pm	10.20am	12.15pm
Year 12	10.20am	12.15pm	10.20am	12.15pm
Year 13	10.20am	12.15pm	10.20am	12.15pm

Toilets

As a school over recent years we have invested heavily in the toilet facilities available to students, this investment will continue. We want to ensure that toilet facilities are of a high standard and that students feel safe and comfortable to use them when needed. I would like to take this opportunity to offer some clarification around toilet provision.

Toilets are accessible to students all day every day. There are toilet facilities in six areas of the school. Specific toilets are allocated at break and lunch and students are directed to these. By allocating certain blocks of toilets this minimises the disruption to lessons that are taking place when a lunch break is active for different year groups; this is for the benefit of all.

During lesson time we are trying to minimise the number of students who leave a lesson to use the toilet. This is to maximise time in lessons and minimise any disruption. Any student who has a medical condition and therefore must frequent the toilet regularly will always be allowed to go. If you have medical evidence in support of your child making frequent visits please forward this to your child's mentor so all staff can be made aware. For these students, discreet use of a toilet pass will be arranged.

We once again welcome your support in speaking to your child about only using the toilets at break and lunch. We want all students to feel comfortable with the facilities that we provide, we expect all students to treat these facilities with respect.

I do hope the aforementioned information regarding the school's toilets provides reassurance about this provision.

If you have any questions or queries about the information above please contact the school.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P Hunt', written in a cursive style.

Mr P Hunt
Assistant Head of School (Standards)