

Dear Parents / Guardians

I am pleased to inform you that we now have over 225 students participating in our forthcoming summer school. As a reminder, the week starts on Monday 23rd August and breakfast will be available for students in the Birchwood Café from 8:30am.

At 9:00am each day, students will meet in the Year 7 social area and then led into a short assembly with their new Head of Year, Miss Munro in the school hall. The morning will then consist of a number of school based activities and subject specific sessions up until lunchtime. Staff are currently planning interesting and engaging lessons for each and every child to participate in.

Following this, lunch will be provided in the Birchwood café, however, if your child would prefer to bring in a packed lunch that is absolutely fine. Both breakfast and lunch will be provided free of charge and will include vegetarian and non-vegetarian options.

Following lunch, students will then have the opportunity to participate in some fun activities with 'Club Excel' an outside provider. There will be at least one member of the Birchwood team in each of the 9 groups to supervise the afternoon work. The sessions with Club Excel will last for the final 1.5 hours of each day where students will take part in 2 activities each afternoon. Everything will be designed to be thoroughly enjoyable, and I am sure they will engage the students fully as well as help them all start to gel as a year group.

In terms of groupings, the students will be based in their form classes and there should be around 25 students in each group. Every student will experience the same lessons and activities across the 3 days, with the exception of some of the Club Excel activities. They will each complete 6 out of the 9 that will run.

With regards to what clothing to wear for the 3 days, please can I request that every student wear their new **Birchwood PE kit with their blazer over the top. No hoodies**. This will just be the White Birchwood Polo shirt, black shorts or skort, white socks or Birchwood socks and trainers. This way they are in a Birchwood uniform but are ready to do all the practical activities that will be on offer. If it comes to the 23rd August and you are yet to have received your PE kit from Fosters, then a plain white top, black shorts and white socks is absolutely fine.

The day will conclude at 3:05 and you will be able to pick your child up from the same place that you drop them off in the morning which is in the Birchwood car park.

Finally, if your son or daughter is participating in the trip on either the Thursday or Friday all the arrangements for this will be communicated to you, if they have not been already.

If you do have any follow up questions at all, please do let us know.

I look forward to seeing all the students on Monday 23rd August for what should prove to be a brilliant week.

Kind regards

Rob Herbert

Assistant Principal