



High Tunstall College of Science

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Headteacher: Mark R Tilling

Deputy Headteachers: Peter W Hayward and Laura Ovens

May 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Thank you for your ongoing support and trust in developing our response to Covid-19 and the move back to allowing students to have access to vocational and technical rooms more readily. You should have received our recent parent newsletter and to go alongside this I would like to reiterate a few points around standards.

As we move along our road map out of the pandemic we must continue to raise our expectations on all, and that includes the levels of equipment that students must have on them in lessons. I have to say that only a small minority of our student population are not meeting the standards we have set and I would like to remind all parents/carers that the minimum equipment all students should have is, a pen, pencil, rubber, ruler, calculator, all contained in a pencil case. The pencil case should be contained in a bag with a College planner along with all their homework and books for the College day. When appropriate PE kit should also be in their bag. These bags will now need to be placed in their lockers, with their mobile phone.

Lockers will be used before and after College, and when required students will be allowed to return to their lockers briefly to collect items outside of lesson time. Please ensure all students have appropriate locks for their locker.

It is also important to reiterate our ambition around attendance at College. Our ambition is that every student has an attendance rate of at least 96% this is vital if we want all students to achieve highly whilst at the College. Students who attend poorly and do not come to College prepared, without the correct equipment are not going to achieve their potential. I ask you to ensure that all attend well and are properly prepared for College at all times so we can maximise learning time.

We have noticed a decline in the quality of footwear and we ask that parents support us to ensure that all students come to college wearing appropriate footwear. The number and variety with logos and different colours have been on the increase and from September 2021 the College uniform policy will return to be **black shoes** only. Shoes should be plain black throughout, without a visible logo and be able to be polished – trainers, or canvas shoes cannot be polished and are, therefore, not acceptable. I ask you all to support us with this important change as and when you purchase footwear for the 2021/22 academic year.

Our students have returned magnificently from the second national lockdown, they have been truly brilliant. Let's keep this going in the last half term of this very different year. To do this safely we must remember to continue to do our twice-weekly lateral flow tests for Covid-19, including during the holidays.

I do hope that you all have a restful half term and look forward to seeing all students return on **Monday 7th June 2021** at **8.35am** for an **8.40 start**.

Take care and stay safe.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Tilling
Headteacher

