



King Arthur's School

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Headteacher – Mr Jonty Archibald

24th October 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring students are wearing their school uniform with pride and are equipped with planner and pencil case ready to learn each day.

Attendance

Attendance continues to be one of our biggest focuses as a school and we have many of our students with 100% attendance. It is crucial for their learning at school to be consistently present and to practise for work in later life. We are keen to keep the whole school attendance above 95% as research shows that high attendance gives the best life chances to our students. We are grateful for all your hard work in supporting us with this.

Reading

During this first term we have been busy implementing changes to the school day with students now fully immersed in the adapted Tutor activities at the start of the day. Reading has been a particular success with year groups reading books collectively, whilst students track in their own copies, developing interest and enjoyment. PSHE and study skills sessions highlight and initiate many important discussions that facilitate learning. Please do encourage your children to read and read to them over the half term break as the research shows this is excellent for de-stressing and good for their mental health and yours.

Mental Health

We continue to support our student's mental health and we do have the Mental Health in Schools Team working on our school site now. Please do let us know if you feel your child would benefit from some additional support in this area. Or alternatively please use the link below to contact the Team directly.

[Mental Health Support Team \(MHST\) - CAMHS](#)

We also continue to refer pupils to the Balsam Centre for counselling so please contact us or them directly if you would like to access this support. [Home | Balsam Centre | Healthy living centre in Wincanton, Somerset](#)

Additional mental health support sites for support for the half term break:

[Home - Young Somerset](#)

[We're Mind, the mental health charity | Mind](#)

[Suicide Prevention UK Help & Support | SPUK Charity 1187866](#)

Other agencies

[About Children's Social Care](#)

[Somerset Drug and Alcohol Service \(SDAS\) | Turning Point](#)

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Uniform

The majority of students are smartly dressed and have high standards whilst representing King Arthurs both to and from school. Ensuring the consistent standards of our uniform across the school will be our focus in the new half term. Please can we remind our students that a plain black school jumper is in addition to the blazer so please can all students be wearing blazers after half term.

A particular area we would like to address is the length of school skirts. The uniform policy states '*Black, knee length (not pencil or stretchy)*'. **Students who continue to roll skirts up to an indecent length will be asked to wear trousers as it is not appropriate for a working environment.**

Mobile phones and social media

An issue that gains much media attention and is a significant concern to all those working with young people are the increasing risks associated with social media and use of the internet. We would like to take this opportunity to remind students that we should not be seeing their phones during the school day. We support students through assemblies and PSHE sessions to increase awareness, highlight vulnerabilities and help safeguard students, however it is important as parents that you **check your child's phone regularly including any group chats and ensure the settings are set to private. Please also ensure that mobile phones are not in your child's room overnight.** One in five secondary pupils checks social media in the middle of the night, checking social media at night means that teenagers are constantly tired at school.

Please use these links to help you keep your child safe online:

[Internet-Matters-Set-Up-Safe-Checklist-Mar-2023.pdf](#)

[App Reviews, Kids Apps | Common Sense Media](#)

[Parental controls and privacy settings guides | Internet Matters](#)

[Conversation starters for your child's online life | Internet Matters](#)

In addition, Parent Forums throughout the year will support parents with how to set up apps on their pupils' phones safely or alternatively do contact us at school and we will help you.

Disruption Free Learning Environment

We have had huge success with the initiative launched last year designed to ensure a disruption free learning environment in our school. We are proud of the strong relationships we have between staff and students that are based on trust and respect. Pupils deserve to learn in an environment that is not disrupted, and we have clear processes in place to support and challenge pupils who on the rare occasion do disrupt. We are pleased to say that this a rare occasion and affects very few students, 97% of students are well mannered, polite and co-operative.

If you have any questions or concerns do not hesitate to contact the school office and we will ensure that the appropriate person responds to you as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely



Claire Pattermore

Associate Assistant Head for Behaviour & Attitudes

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