

**Key Dates**

KS3 Rewards Trip- Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September  
 KS4 Rewards Trip- Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September  
 EPR Pilgrimage- Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September  
 Parent/Governor forum- Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> September 6-7pm  
 Open Evening- Thurs 3<sup>rd</sup> October 6-8pm

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly I'd like to welcome all our students back after, what I hope, has been a restful and enjoyable summer break. I have a number of key pieces of information to share with you regarding the new school year. On Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September we will be holding our first Parent/Governor Forum of the academic year. I would like to encourage as many of you to come as possible and look forward to welcoming and sharing with you our current position and plans for the future. This event will take place in the LRC, 6-7pm.

**Uniform, appearance and equipment**

It has been delightful to see our students turning up for a new year in school in their full uniform this week. Our uniform and equipment guidance has been updated and revised slightly to ensure that students are always smart in appearance and ready to learn. Information went out in the last few newsletters of the summer term, you can review these on the website in our 'Letters Home' section. You can also view detailed information regarding uniform on the 'Uniform' section of our website <http://www.todhigh.co.uk/school-uniform/>. We have a brand new uniform shop on school site where students can access shirts, ties, blazers, trousers, skirts, shoes and many other items if they are in need of a piece of uniform. Piercings, other than one single stud in each ear, are not permitted in school. The same rule applies to nail varnish, false nails, false eyelashes and heavy makeup. Students should not wear hoodies to school, thank you for your support with this.

Form tutors are furnished with equipment that they can lend to the students in case of an emergency, however the expectation of the school is that students bring a full set of equipment with them each day:

- Journal (provided by the school)
- Black pen
- Green pen
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Scientific calculator
- English dictionary
- Reading book

**School day and term dates**

Our school day has undergone some slight changes, this was advertised on our website at the end of last term and over summer. You can view the school day and term dates on our website at <http://www.todhigh.co.uk/school-day-and-term-dates/>. We have gone to a 'no bells' system this year, to allow for a smooth transition between lessons and to promote a calmer learning environment in school. I have attached a reminder of these changes below.

08:40	09:00	10:00	11:00	11:20	12:20	13:00	14:00	15:00
Reg	Period 1	Period 2	Eat 1	Period 3	Eat 2	Period 4	Period 5	End of school day



### **Parentpay, Parent Mail and Classcharts**

- We implemented Parentpay last year as our key system for financial transactions including trips and lunches. This proved to be highly successful and we are continuing to use this system this year. If you require a log on or are experiencing difficulties with Parentpay please contact the admin team at your earliest convenience, [admin@todhigh.co.uk](mailto:admin@todhigh.co.uk).
- Parent Mail was also introduced last academic year as our key tool for communicating with parents including texts home, emails and messages. Again, if you aren't receiving messages from school or having any issues accessing/using parent mail please contact the admin team on the email address above.
- Classcharts is our new electronic behaviour system, this allows us to communicate with home regarding any positive (or negative) behaviour of a student. You can download the Class Charts App for **Parents** which allows **you** to view the progress of their child in real time. In order to use the Class Charts **Parent** App you need to be provided with a **parent** code by your school. You should have already received this information but if you have not please contact Mr Milnes (Associate Assistant Headteacher) on [p.milnes@todhigh.co.uk](mailto:p.milnes@todhigh.co.uk).

### **ARCH**

We updated our vision and values in the summer term, to reflect more accurately the vision and values of all students and staff in the school. Our school values have become 'Ambition, Respect, Care and Honesty' and our vision has changed to 'Enabling all individuals to unlock their unique potential'. We felt that these statements and values fit with our ethos around school, and can be applied not only in school life but in the wider world. As a result of these changes we have conducted a full review of our behaviour/personal development systems and policy, and will be releasing information regarding this on our website in due course.

### **Our website and student profile**

We have been working over the summer on updating and reformatting our website to make it easier to navigate for parents. You should be able to access all key pieces of information for both parents and students via the 'Key Information' tabs on the website homepage. If you have any questions or concerns relating to the website please get in touch with Mrs Womack on [e.womack@todhigh.co.uk](mailto:e.womack@todhigh.co.uk). Any feedback is greatly appreciated and will be used to continue to develop the site moving forward. Additionally if you wish to subscribe to this letter and have not done so already please contact Mrs Womack on the email above to be added to the mailing list. Each week we circulate a student profile celebrating the achievements of individuals/groups of students across the school, this will resume as of next week. If you have any fantastic news regarding your child/a student at our school, please contact Mrs Womack (email address above) directly to share this news so that we can celebrate our students' successes.

### **Open Evening**

Our open evening is taking place on Thursday the 3<sup>rd</sup> October this year, from 6-8pm. This is an opportunity for prospective students to come and take a look around school, meet staff and students and listen to the Headteacher's address. All of these aspects help students and their parents to make an informed decision about where they will go to school the following year. If you have young children who are due to move up to High school in September 2020, keep your eye on the letter for more updates regarding our Open evening.

### **Music lessons**

At Todmorden High School we offer music lessons on a variety of instruments such as piano, drum kit, guitar, violin and singing lessons. Forms to apply for these lessons will be listed on the website this week, so that you can apply. All queries can be directed to Miss Brockman via email [a.brockman@todhigh.co.uk](mailto:a.brockman@todhigh.co.uk) **OR** for instrument lessons send an email to [admin@calderdalemusictrust.org.uk](mailto:admin@calderdalemusictrust.org.uk)/for voice lessons send an email to [info@ailsanicholson.co.uk](mailto:info@ailsanicholson.co.uk).

As ever, if you have any queries or concerns regarding our students or anything else school related please don't hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards,



Miss G Shirt  
Headteacher

**Todmorden High School: enabling all individuals to unlock their unique potential**