

NM/CH

16 July 2019

Dear parent or carer

Introducing Neil McCudden – Assistant Headteacher – Ethos & Culture

I am delighted to introduce myself as the new Assistant Headteacher of James Calvert Spence College, starting in September 2019.

I have been a teacher and pastoral leader in the North East for over 20 years and feel very fortunate and proud to be offered this opportunity to join the school at such an exciting time. I look forward to working very closely with the governors, teachers, parents and young people to build upon the success that the school already has and to help take the school forward into the next phase of its history and development.

As a parent myself, I will really value the opinions and concerns of parents as I want to form a successful partnership with you to ensure the young people who attend our school can fulfil their potential. It is my belief that every child should have the opportunity to be the best they can be, to enjoy their schooling and be successful. Furthermore, I hold the opinion that if it is not good enough for my own children, then it is not good enough for the young people who attend our school.

My specific title will be Assistant Headteacher in charge of Ethos and Culture. The role has a wide remit that centres on creating a purposeful and safe learning environment for all learners, which includes behaviour, attendance and safeguarding.

With this in mind, may I take this opportunity to ask for your support in ensuring that the students return to school in September in the appropriate uniform. The expectations around this are stated in our prospectus on the school website

(<https://www.jcsc.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/JCS-School-Prospectus-2019.pdf>) but I have included below a summary of these expectations:

- Black blazer - must have the school logo embroidered;
- Grey V-neck sweater - must have the school logo embroidered;
- White shirt - plain, long or short sleeved;
- Black school shorts - plain, must not have logos or embellishments or be sportswear;
- Black skirt - knee length, must not have logos or embellishments;
- Black school trousers- standard fit. Fashion items, jeans, leggings and jeggings are not acceptable. School trousers may have zips, buttons and pockets but must not have any embellishments or logos;
- School tie - all students must have a clip-on tie;
- Black school shoes - black and polishable. Suede shoes are not permitted;
- Students in Years 5 – 7 are not permitted to wear make-up. They can wear a watch, one ring and one small stud earring in each ear. Extreme hairstyles, including colours and shapes cut into hair, are not permitted.

- Students in Years 8 - 11 can wear minimal natural make-up but extreme hair styles or colours are not permitted. They can wear a watch, a ring and one small stud earring in each ear.
- **Body or facial piercings are not allowed in any school.**
- Students in all year groups are asked to bring a bag to carry books and equipment. The bag should be large enough to hold books without folding.
- Students can wear black outdoor coats.

If you would like further clarification on the above, or would like to know where the uniform can be purchased, please visit the website or contact the school directly.

Yours faithfully

NEIL MCCUDDEN
Assistant Headteacher
Ethos & Culture