

NRo/LHe
22nd December 2023

Dear Parents and carers,

So here it is, after a busy week of activities, the end of term starts today at 3.15pm and with it, the Christmas break. I wanted to take the opportunity to give you some updates, reminders and updates on life at James Calvert Spence College.

Firstly, school returns for all students at the usual time on **Tuesday 9th January 2024**. Could you please ensure that your child arrives punctually and in full school uniform. We've recently noticed that some of our young people have let their uniform standards slip, so the break would be a good time for you to ensure they have the correct items of clothing, footwear and a tie. Any lost ties can be replaced by contacting our reception. Our uniform policy is straightforward and [a full description can be found on our website](#). Please check it carefully before buying new items, especially footwear, to ensure they are compliant.

Part of our uniform policy outlines our expectations around nails – only clear/nude/natural nail varnish is accepted and false nails are not accepted in school. While we have been tolerant of slight breaches of this in the run up to the festive season, I do expect nails to be in line with policy in the new year.

During that first week of the new term we are extending our PSHE time each morning to deliver a very important course to all our pupils around safeguarding children with protected characteristics. We will discuss topics around bullying and hate crimes based on gender, disability, race, religion or sexual orientation. We believe this is a very important subject to deliver consistently to all our students so that they understand the impact of such behaviours and ultimately grow up to be kind and tolerant members of our community. If you would like any further information about the materials we will be looking at so you can support us and your child at home, please don't hesitate contact us.

Sadly, it's not just the last day of term, but the last day of teaching at JCSC for Dr Southworth who leaves us today. We will miss her terribly and wish her all the best in her future adventures.

New to our school in January is Mr Laslett, who replaces Dr Southworth as Second in Science department, and Mr Kane who joins the art & design department.

Finally, all that remains is for me to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

See you all in 2024!!



Neil Rodgers
Executive Headteacher