

16<sup>th</sup> July 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope that this letter finds you well. I wanted to write with some important updates as we near the very end of this academic year.

### Arrangements for the end of the year

This week is crammed with many different events and activities:

- Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> July is our Day of Sport. Many thanks for understanding the change of date due to the weather forecast.
- The last day of school is Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July. This is our Festival Day and pupils will be taking part in a range of activities. They will be able to have a lunch before the end of year dismissal from 1pm. School Transport has been notified about this earlier finish.
- A Level results day is Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2025 and doors open to students from 8am.
- GCSE results day is Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2025 and doors open to pupils from 8.30am.

### Arrangements for September 2025

- Monday 1<sup>st</sup> and Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September are training days and pupils return to school on **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September at the normal time of 8.45am.**
- We had our transition day at the end of June where pupils have already had an opportunity to be in their new tutor groups and work on our values of Be Kind / Work Hard / Aim High. We also look forward to welcoming record numbers from other feeder primary schools in the locality as they join our new Year 7.

### School uniform

We are putting more of a focus on a higher expectation for school uniform next academic year. All of our local state secondary schools insist on high standards of uniform compliance and we are no different in that respect.

One of our biggest issues this year has been the frequent removal of the clip-on ties by pupils during the school day. From September, I would like all pupils to wear a proper school tie and we will support them in learning how to tie it. In my experience, this takes a few days to bed in and then the pupils know what to do. Ties can be purchased on the My Child at School App anytime and you can collect these in the last two weeks of the holidays from reception, we will share reminders on social media and via the app.

Our uniform expectations are set out on the website and can be found here:

[Uniform - James Calvert Spence College](#)

I look forward to your support on this as we start the year again in September. Please contact the pastoral team if you foresee any issues with this.

### **New school build**

As I mentioned in my previous letter home, Kier have been working at a fast pace and we can now see the steel frame for the new school building going up. This gives everyone an opportunity to appreciate the shape of what is to come. On top of this development, they have been on the school field working on future drainage systems and they are updating the school carpark over the summer holidays.

We have a dedicated page on our school website for all things related to the new build and, over the coming months, will continue to populate this with information and updates:

[New Build - James Calvert Spence College](#)

### **Staffing updates for new year**

The end of a school year will often lead to some changes in our staffing. In our case, this is also complicated by the fact that we will be starting September as a fully-fledged secondary school and will no longer have any primary pupils on roll. There is some understandable sadness about this change and it has equally had some impact on our staffing model going forward. We are working very closely with our primary feeder schools to ensure that each new intake of Year 7 from next year onwards will be well supported for the next step of their journey in life. Here are the changes:

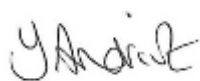
- Mrs White leaves us to take up a languages post in south Northumberland.
- Miss Davies is joining one of our tremendous feeder schools, Grange View C.E Primary School in Widdrington.

- Mr Hall is joining our secondary maths directorate and Mr Swift is our new head of PE in the secondary school.
- Mr Watson from PE leaves us at the end of term and we wish him the best of luck.
- Miss Trewick and Miss Chisholm, two of our learning support partners, have both come to the end of their apprenticeships and we wish them well for the future.

### Final thoughts

As I come to the end of my first year, I want to thank the many parents and carers that I have met for their support and commitment to the school. We are still going through a period of significant change brought on by a number of different driving factors. We want to set high expectations in every aspect of school life whilst retaining the personal touch that is part of the charm and legacy of a small secondary school like JCSC. We are also starting to prepare for life in a new and totally different building and this will be even more transformative for education in the town.

Yours faithfully



Mr James Andriot

Headteacher