

Headteacher: Mr Andy Kelly

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Dear Parents and Carers

As we enter our final week of the school year, I would like to thank you for your support since my arrival as Headteacher in November 2023. Working alongside Parkside staff to serve our students has been a privilege. Parkside is a truly special school and it has been an absolute pleasure to get to know your children. I am excited at what we will achieve together next academic year and look forward to working in partnership with you in 2024/25.

Last day arrangements

Our students' last day is Friday 19 July and they will finish at 12.45pm. It will be a non-uniform day and we are asking those who would like to participate to bring a food item/tin/packet. As previously, this will support Gussie's Kitchen. On this day please could students return any loaned uniform to school. We would also welcome any donations of preloved uniform.

No mobile phones or electronic devices at Parkside Community School

You will be aware of the school's move to ban mobile phones and electronic devices. We have adopted a **never used, seen or heard** approach. This allows students to bring mobile phones and electronic devices with them to school but they must be turned off in their school bags before they enter the school site. I am happy to report that students have adapted to this change brilliantly. Thank you for your support in helping us create a distraction free, safe learning environment for your children.

September return for students

A polite reminder that September 4, 5 and 6 will be staff INSET training days. Year 7 and Year 11 students will return on Monday 9 September and all students are expected to be in school on Tuesday 10 September.

In September our day will change slightly in order to fulfil the Department for Education's guidance that all schools must provide a 32.5 hour offer for their students. The new school timings for September 2024 are below and show a 5-minute difference to this year's arrival and departure times:

8.25am – Students to arrive at the bottom gate

3.05pm – Students to depart at the bottom gate

We will return to our normal school uniform expectations in September as outlined below:

- Black school shoes
- Plain black trousers or black knee length pleated skirt with black tights
- White shirt
- Plain black jumper or cardigan (optional)
- Parkside tie
- Parkside blazer

A polite reminder that students are expected to return to school with a school bag that contains their pencil case, student planner and, when relevant, their PE kit.

Parental Information Evenings 4 and 5 September 2024 6pm

In September we will be hosting Parental Information Evenings for all year groups. This will be an opportunity for the school to share with parents and carers the plans for the upcoming academic year. We would love to see you there! Timings for this are below:

- September 4 - 6pm KS3 (Year 7, 8 and 9) Parental Information Evening
- September 5 - 6pm KS4 (Year 10 and 11) Parental Information Evening

Final Year 11 goodbye!

On Friday 12 July we said our final goodbyes to Year 11 students with a very memorable leaving assembly in the morning and a fantastic prom that evening. Both events were thoroughly enjoyed by students and staff. GCSE results day is Thursday 22 August and we look forward to seeing Year 11 students on this date to celebrate their successes.

Culture Day 16 July

We will be hosting our inaugural Culture Day on Tuesday 16 July. Students will undertake a range of classroom activities and assemblies that celebrate the diversity at our school and the wider community. On this day students will be allowed to attend school in non-uniform that aligns with dress or colours of their culture heritage. This day links directly with our school value 'Community' as we come together to create great educational experiences.

Police and Crime Commissioner Survey

Nicolle Ndiweni, the new Police and Crime Commissioner for Derbyshire wants to hear your views on policing. Nicolle has launched her consultation on the new Police and Crime Plan for Derbyshire, giving residents an unprecedented role in the design of plans to build a safer and more inclusive Derbyshire. The survey questions cover the importance of policing themes and local issues where people live. The survey should take no longer than 4 minutes to complete. The link for the survey is below:

<https://qrco.de/PoliceAndCrimePlanSurvey>

Parkside Social Media

Please keep up to date with all things Parkside through our social media outlets – Facebook, X (formerly known as Twitter) and Instagram. These platforms give regular updates on the great things our students achieve.

Dates and for your diary:

- 16 July - Culture Celebration Day
- 19 July - Last day of school, non-uniform day, students finish at 12.45pm
- 22 August - Y11 GCSE results day
- 4 September, 6pm - KS3 (Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9) Parental Information Evening
- 5 September, 6pm - KS4 (Year 10 and Year 11) Parental Information Evening
- 9 September - Year 7 and Year 11 students return
- 10 September - all students return

As always if you have any queries, please get in touch with us at

Info@parkside.derbyshire.sch.uk.

Wishing all our families a great Summer!

Yours faithfully

Mr Andy Kelly
Headteacher