

**Headteacher: Mr Andy Kelly**

Parkside Community School  
Boythorpe Avenue, Chesterfield  
Derbyshire S40 2NS

Tel: 01246 273458

Email: [info@parkside.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:info@parkside.derbyshire.sch.uk)

Web: [www.parkside.derbyshire.sch.uk](http://www.parkside.derbyshire.sch.uk)

24 June 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope this letter finds our families well as we finally get a little more sunshine! Our students have continued to do great things this half term; some of which can be viewed through our social media outlets – Facebook, X (formerly known as Twitter) and Instagram. Please keep up to date with all things Parkside.

### **No mobile phones or electronic devices at Parkside Community School from 8 July 2024**

You will be aware of my letter to parents and carers on 12 June where I outlined the school's plan to ban mobile phones and electronic devices from 8 July. Student assemblies have been held to discuss the change and the following link will give parents and carers access to this presentation. – <https://youtu.be/kQuanzPKfH8>. To support parents and carers I have voiced over the slides in order to share key messages that were shared

Discussing the changes at Parkside with your child is incredibly important in ensuring we provide a safe, distraction free learning environment. Please do watch the assembly presentation with your child and access the websites below to support further conversations on appropriate mobile phones use:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers/phones>

<https://www.barnardos.org.uk/blog/keeping-your-child-safe-their-smartphone>

<https://www.familylives.org.uk/advice/secondary/online/giving-your-child-a-mobile-phone>

If any parents or carers would like support in this area, please get in touch with us.

I recognise that mobile phones and electronic devices are an integral part of our lives now and for young people in particular, they are objects of huge significance. I know that from a safety perspective, parents/carers want their children to bring a phone to school in order to ensure that they can safely travel to and from school and this will still be possible as we adopt a **never used, seen or heard** approach. This will allow students to bring mobile phones and electronic devices with them to school but they must be turned off and put in their school bags before they enter the school site.

Please note that reasonable adjustments will be made for students who require the use of mobile phone technology to manage medical conditions e.g. Type 1 diabetes, Bluetooth hearing aids, etc. These arrangements will be agreed with individuals as appropriate so they are able to support their area of need without consequence.

### **Contacting your child at school should not be done by mobile phone from 8 July**

Parents/carers should contact the main school phone line 01246 273458 if they need to pass a message to their child, or email [Info@parkside.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:Info@parkside.derbyshire.sch.uk). This will then be relayed at the earliest opportunity to their child in a lesson. If a child needs to contact home during the day they should speak to a member of the pastoral staff at social times (brunch/lunch). They will be permitted to use the school phone from an office to do so.

### **Year 10 mocks**

Year 10 students have spent the previous week completing their mock exams. Students' behaviour and attitudes have been impeccable and we wish them the best of luck as they finish these this week.

### **Summer Uniform – Half Term 6**

The school will make adjustments to uniform expectations if we experience high temperatures; until this point students must wear their full uniform as normal. Any adjustments will be communicated to parents/carers via a text message before 8am on the day or in advance where possible. A reminder of our alternative summer uniform for half term 6 is outlined below:

- Knee length pleated skirts can be worn with either black or white ankle socks (no need for tights)
- Tailored shorts (knee length and made of the same material as school trousers) may be worn. Socks should be either black or white
- Black school shoes must always be worn – no trainers
- Blazers must be worn

Please note that normal uniform expectations will be back in place for September. Thank you for supporting our high standards of student uniform at Parkside.

### **September return for students**

I can confirm that September 4, 5 and 6 will be staff INSET training days at Parkside Community School. Year 7 and Year 11 students will return on Monday 9 September. All students are expected to be in school on Tuesday 10 September.

### **Summer Concert**

A reminder of our Parkside summer concert which is scheduled for the evening of 4 July. This will be an opportunity to showcase the student talent we have at Parkside. It promises to be a fantastic event with more information to follow.

## Parent forum

A reminder that our next parent forum is scheduled for 3 July 9.30am-10.30am. If you'd like to attend this event, please email Sarah Russell [srussell@parkside.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:srussell@parkside.derbyshire.sch.uk) at Parkside.

## Dates and for your diary:

- Y10 mock exams – 17-28 July
- Y8 HPV Vaccinations - 2 July
- Parent forum - 3 July
- Summer Concert - 4 July
- Culture Celebration Day - 16 July
- Last day of school before the summer break - 19 July (students finish at 12.45pm)
- Year 7 and Year 11 students return to school after the Summer break – 9 September
- All students return to school after the Summer break – 10 September

Thank you for your ongoing support. If you have any queries, please get in touch with us at [Info@parkside.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:Info@parkside.derbyshire.sch.uk).

Yours faithfully

Mr Andy Kelly  
Headteacher