

## Parent and Carer Newsletter 15.9.23

Please see below a summary of helpful information for this week.

### Uniform

We have been really impressed with the standard of uniform and appearance for the majority of our new and returning pupils, here is just a reminder of the uniform policy for information:

[Glossopdale School Uniform Policy](#) This policy has been created to ensure that all students can be confident through their smart appearance and that they represent the school appropriately at all times. Our school uniform policy aims to achieve the following:

- Instil a sense of pride and community in our students
- Engenders a sense of community and belonging towards the school
- Enables uniform to be both smart and affordable for all parents/carers
- Allows additional activities such as sports to be facilitated and safe
- Can assist identification of strangers on school premises
- Is designed with health and safety in mind
- Creates a sense of professionalism and prepares students for adult life and the world of work
- Reduces the likelihood of bullying or peer pressure as all students are dressed the same
- Promotes equality amongst all students through their appearance (we want students to be defined by the content of their character and not by what they wear)
- By having a standard uniform the focus is less on how students look, enabling them to focus on their learning

Please be mindful of the following:

- acrylic nails, nail polish, false eyelashes and excessive make-up are not permitted
- only one pair of plain studs is permitted in each ear and no other piercings are allowed
- only plain black socks are permitted (no sports logos)

### School Photographs

These will take place on Tuesday 19th September when all students will have their photographs taken in school by Braiswick Photographers. You will have the opportunity to buy this approximately three weeks later, when proof packs will be handed out to students. Should you wish to order, please use the form enclosed within the pack.

### Free breakfast

We offer a free breakfast to all students between 8:00 and 8.30am in the Heart every morning. All students are very welcome.

### ParentPay

Please ensure that you check and add funds to your child's ParentPay account so that they can purchase food items at break and lunchtime. If you need login information please email [finance@glossopdale.school](mailto:finance@glossopdale.school).

### ClassCharts

We are continuing to use ClassCharts to record attendance, rewards and behaviour information for students. If you need your login details for ClassCharts please email [info@glossopdale.school](mailto:info@glossopdale.school)

## Attendance Recording in Schools

You may be interested to know that maintaining accurate registers is a statutory and legal requirement in schools. There are a range of codes that are used when marking the registers.

Here are some examples and when they may be used-

**Present** – the mark that we like best! At Glossopdale we aspire to an attendance rate of 97% or above. Anything below 90% is classed as persistent absence.

**Late (before close of registers)** – students can be assigned a late mark before the close of registers if they arrive no later than 9.30am

**Late (after the registers close at 9.30)** – in this case students will be assigned a U code which will affect their mark for the morning. As a student, sometimes you can't help being late but please try to minimise this, and get here as early as you can. A U code is classed as an absence for the morning session.

**Authorised absences** – may include illness where school has been notified; other authorised circumstances may include emergency family circumstances, bereavement / funerals or medical appointments, for example.

**Educational trips / sporting activities / work experience/ educated off-site** – these are marked on the registers using the relevant code and will be counted as being present by the attendance team if approved.

**Unauthorised absences** – where no reason or no satisfactory reason has been provided for the absence, such as un-authorised holidays in term-time.

**Exceptional circumstances** – such as being closed due to snow / bad weather, industrial action days. These absences will not affect attendance figures.

**We ask parents / carers to carefully consider the impact of holidays in term-time. Holidays in term-time will be classed as an unauthorised absence and a fixed penalty fine will be issued by the local authority.**

Where a student's attendance falls below expected standards, school will contact parents / carers. Attendance meetings may be held to look at ways of supporting students to improve their attendance in school.

We hope this information is useful and ask parents / carers for support in ensuring that our students have good levels of attendance in school. Please contact our attendance team if you need any more information.

## 100 Talks for Change

We have been lucky to secure 2 places on this fantastic initiative (who are travelling across the UK, delivering 100 talks to over 10,000 students in 20 days) for year groups 9 and 10 next week on Thursday 21st September. This involves a whole-year-group presentation from an inspirational speaker addressing students on their mental health journeys, overcoming problems and positive change. More information can be found [here](#)

## Derbyshire Water Safety Partnership Logo Competition

The Derbyshire Water Safety Partnership needs a new logo that embodies the messages of maximising water safety, reducing cases of drowning and water related injuries through prevention, education and awareness. There's still time to enter, the closing date is 15th September 2023 at 11:59pm all the details of how to enter can be found here:

<https://www.glossopdale.school/attachments/download.asp?file=794&type=pdf>

## PTFA Family Quiz Night!

Save the date! It's the PTFA Family Quiz night on Friday the 6th October '23 at 7pm. Please see the poster on Facebook with more details. <https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=869515164509274&set=a.592428865551240>

## Year 9

### DofE Bronze Award

Year 9 students are invited to start their Bronze DofE Award. This is an excellent opportunity to develop a wide range of skills and interests. The full Bronze Award costs £150 (paid in 3 instalments; October, February and May). This includes registration with DofE, access to an eDofE account, DofE discount card and regular support with a member of staff to complete the skill, volunteer and physical section. Training and supervision on a one night one day training expedition and supervision and assessment on a two day and one night qualifying expedition in the Peak District. Loan of team kit including tents, Trangia, maps, gas and first aid kits. To find out more about the Bronze Award please visit <https://www.dofe.org/do/> Enrolment forms are available from the Key Stage 3 office and the initial £50 deposit can be made via Parent Pay. If you have any questions about DofE please contact Miss Geary on [lgeary@glossopdale.school](mailto:lgeary@glossopdale.school).

### Key Stage 4

Key stage 4 Parent Information Evening will be taking place on Thursday 5th October at 6pm. All parents/carers of students in Years 10 and 11 will be invited to join us in the evening to gain important information about GCSEs and level 2 vocational courses and how to support your child. A letter with further details will be shared via Class Charts.

### Post-16 Parents' Information Evening

On Thursday 21st September we will be hosting a Post-16 Parents' Information Evening at 6:30pm in the Theatre. This evening will provide information on a range of topics including: how to support your child over the next year, up to date information on how we are currently developing our students' leadership skills and how we are preparing them for their future pathways, as well as key dates for your diary. We do hope that you will be able to join us and that you will find the evening helpful and informative.

### Dates for your diary

Tuesday 19th September	School Photos
Thursday 21st September	KS5 Parents Information Evening
Thursday 28th September	Y6 Open Evening
Tuesday 3rd October	Senior Maths Challenge
Thursday 5th October	KS4 Parents Information Evening

Thank you for taking the time to read the newsletter.

Best wishes from all at Glossopdale School and Sixth Form

#### **Don't forget to follow us on Social Media!**

We celebrate students' achievements and school events on our Facebook and Twitter pages:

<https://www.facebook.com/GlossopdaleSch>

<https://twitter.com/GlossopdaleSch>

You can also visit our website for all the current year newsletters & more information about our school & sixth form:

<https://www.glossopdale.school>

(Parents>Letters Home)