



3<sup>rd</sup> September 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

## Student Information and Expectations

I would very much like to thank those parents/carers who got in touch to express their gratitude for the clarity of the plans, the quality of the communication and the thought and care that has gone into making things as safe as possible for staff and students, whilst maintaining as much normality as possible and maximising learning. Positive feedback of this nature means a great deal to us - these are difficult and unprecedented times for us all.

With all students returning to school next week, we feel it is key for our students to be able to familiarise themselves with our college expectations regarding uniform and behaviour for learning. This will allow staff to maximise their time concentrating on supporting and alleviating students' anxieties and worries about returning to college. We would ask all parents and carers to read the information enclosed within this letter with your son/daughter in preparation for next week.

How students present themselves is very important to the college. It provides students with a clear expectation of the standards that we expect as a member of our college community. Students gain pride from membership of their school and uniform gives them an opportunity to show this pride visually. We have strong, clear and effective policies on our uniform and Behaviour for learning. These help set the standards for successful learning, leading to excellent outcomes, in the classroom for all students.

### Attendance

Please ensure your child attends every day on time (by 0845) ready for learning. If you need to speak to our Attendance Officer, Mr Huntley, then please use the contact information below. Parents and Carers are responsible for informing the college of the reason for an absence on a daily basis, for each day of absence, by **8:30am**.

- ❖ Call the College 01364 652230 and speak to the Attendance Officer directly.
- ❖ Or via e-mail at [attendance@southdartmoor.devon.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@southdartmoor.devon.sch.uk)

### Key equipment

Required minimum equipment:

- School bag (large enough to hold an A4 folder and their books)
- Pen, Pencil, Ruler, Rubber
- Calculator (for mathematics)
- Pencil case
- PE kit (when appropriate)
- Packed lunch; provided from home or ordered from Scoffers at registration

### Uniform

- The College blazer to be worn at all times
- White shirt with collar and sleeves that buttons up to the collar and is of sufficient length to stay tucked in
- College tie to be worn at all times

- Trousers - pressed full length, plain black trousers for boys and girls (not clinging nor made from stretch fabric). Any form of denim is also not acceptable. Smart tailored, hemmed shorts are acceptable
- Skirts - college issued skirt, no shorter than the top of the knee and no lower than the bottom of the knee
- Footwear - plain, black shoes. Leather ankle boots (flat soled) are acceptable
- Plain black, grey or white socks only
- Coats and jackets - waterproof/windproof outdoor coat big enough to wear over the blazer  
Hooded tops are not acceptable

### **Makeup, hair & jewellery**

The only permitted jewellery is a watch, a small single stud per ear and a plain signet ring.

Uniform is formal and as such students **must not wear or appear** to have:

- Extreme or excessive make-up, false eyelashes
- Nail varnish, false nails, acrylic and gel nail tips and extensions
- Necklaces, bracelets, anklets, charity bands
- Facial studs, tongue piercings, body piercing and exaggerated, decorative flesh tubes (including clear tubes, studs and retainers)
- Extreme hair colour, style or cut. Length of hair to be no shorter than a grade 2
- Large hair accessories
- Visible Henna, including 'black henna' or 'neutral henna' tattoos

### **Behaviour for Learning**

We expect that the teacher in each classroom will be able to offer equal amounts of support and understanding to students in every lesson. This support is to be built on a warm and welcoming relationship created through genuine curiosity and empathy for the needs of each and every student. This includes challenging poor behaviour in the classroom.

Students at South Dartmoor Community College and the Atrium will always be given opportunities to reflect and change their behaviour within the lesson. The majority of our students will welcome this chance and act swiftly to get back on track and remain in the classroom.

Those students, who continue to disrupt the learning environment for others, will need to leave the classroom out of respect for the learners and teacher. They will attend our bridging room. The student will take part in a restorative conversation at the earliest opportunity with the member of staff who sent them there. The restorative conversation gives an opportunity to the two people between whom the bonds of respect and cooperation have broken to repair that damage. We recognise that the high expectations for behaviour for learning can take some time to adjust to. Therefore, we will be operating a phased-in approach with our new Year 7 students.

We thank you once again all for your continued support, patience and understanding. We want your child to be safe, happy and successful when they arrive back with us. We are very much looking forward to seeing your child next week.

Kind regards



Mr D Vile  
Assistant Head teacher



# South Dartmoor Community College and Atrium Studio School

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