

Thursday 13th July 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Information regarding the end of term and re-opening arrangements in September 2023

It gives me great pleasure to write to you and thank you for the support which you have given to myself and staff this year as we approach the end of term. I hope you have a safe and enjoyable summer break and we look forward to your child returning or in some cases, starting as a new student in the new term as school re-opens to all students on **Tuesday 5th September 2023**.

This has been an exciting year for us all. You will recall that we moved into our new building and site at Seghill in January and expanded from accommodating 40 students to 60 students in April. After the summer break, in September we will continue to grow by a further 10 students as we launch our first Year 10 class with students completing GCSE qualifications here at Northumberland PRU for the first time.

To ensure that we have enough teaching capacity to meet the needs of our increasing numbers of students, September will also see several new members of staff joining the PRU. We are pleased to welcome both Mr Jones (ICT Lead) and Mr Addison (Science Lead) who will join the PRU team. We will also be pleased to welcome back both Miss Phelan and Mrs Harper from maternity leaves.

Below you will find details of the final week in school as well as information about the start to the new academic year.

Please also see the Northumberland PRU website at <http://www.pru.northumberland.sch.uk/website> which also carries key information about all aspects of the school.

You will also find the following documents enclosed in this envelope:

- Northumberland PRU Term Dates 2023-24
- Northumberland PRU School Uniform Information 2023-24

Details of final week of term (Monday 17th – Friday 20th July 2023)

School will operate as normal every day next week with the exception of Friday 20th July. On Friday we will be saying our goodbyes to those students who will be leaving us, all students will attend an awards ceremony here in school in the morning and this will be followed by a whole school lunch before being dismissed for the summer holiday and entering taxis at the earlier time of 12:30pm.

Details of return to school in September

Monday 4th September 2023 – **Teacher training Day** (School closed to students)

Tuesday 5th September 2023 – School reopens to all students

School building improvements

Over the summer holidays we will be using the time to make some key improvements to the building ready for September. Firstly, we will be re-designing the main reception area and this will offer a more welcoming space for all visitors as well as a second entry and exit point for students in some teaching groups.

We will also be developing a brand new computer suite for use by all students. This will further expand our curriculum offer and will be complimented by the creation of a new Library to help support our push on improving standards in reading and literacy across the school for all students.

We will also be carrying out work to increase the numbers of toilets available for use on both floors of the building by students and staff here in school by adding two new blocks.

School uniform in September (Please see sheet included with this letter)

All students in Years 7 – 10 must attend school in full Northumberland PRU uniform. Once again we will be providing all pupils with their own polo shirts and sweaters free of charge.

Students have previously been exceptionally good at wearing the correct uniform and we expect this to continue next year. You can help us by reminding your child of the school's expectations regarding appearance and conduct. Please see the enclosed uniform guide which addresses all areas of uniform.

Students should bring a bag containing their own water bottle, stationary (pen, pencil, ruler) and PE kit.

Student attendance and punctuality

All students (Year 7 – 10) from September **must** continue to remain on the school premises for the full duration of the school day (except when attending a visit or off-site activity), which promotes good punctuality and attendance and which also strongly impacts positively towards further increasing high standards of teaching and learning.

May I please request that doctor or dental appointments are made after 2:30pm wherever possible, ensuring that you provide medical evidence (letter or appointment card) for any medical related absences. I must also stress that in line with DfE guidelines that students must not be taken out of school during term time for holidays as permission cannot be given.

Health & safety and student behaviour expectations

Detailed information about the school behaviour policy and our 'Behaviour for Learning' and rewards systems can be found on the new school website.

Mobile telephones and other technical equipment

All mobile telephones must be handed in to staff members each morning by all students for safekeeping where they will be securely stored until the end of day at which point they will be returned to students. This helps support the school approach to safeguarding.

Break time and lunch time – Student catering and refreshments

I can confirm that the cost of a daily breakfast and lunch school meal will continue to be fully covered by the school.

Looking ahead

There continues to be a lot of excitement about the future for the school as we change to accommodate new key stages of pupils and we look forward to welcoming our new group of Year 10 students who will be joining us in September.

With your valued and on-going partnership, I look forward to sharing further successes and updates with you throughout the coming months. You will always be kept updated and we will continue to work together to support all of our students.

Yours faithfully,

R. L. Carr

Richard Carr, Headteacher