

This newsletter is on the school website along with other important information about the school.



You can access the website at www.sydney-smith-hull.sch.uk

Easter Newsletter

'helping students to become learners'

Important date: Students are back in school on Tuesday 21st April 2009

The First Day of the Summer Term

The first day of term for students after the Easter Break is **Tuesday 21st April 2009**. The day will be a normal day and all the school bus services will be running as usual. The students will be reminded of this start date during every guidance time in the last week of this term.

A big 'THANK YOU' to all families

Once again over this last term there has been a tremendous support from the vast majority of families in ensuring that all the students are in the **correct uniform** and have the **correct equipment** which is carried in a **bag**. Please keep up all the good work for this last term.

Attendance and Punctuality



The school has been delighted with the progress that has been made with regard to the significant reduction of 8% in the number of students who are now counted as Persistent Absentees.

The school is also on track to see a rise of around 2.5% in the overall attendance.

It is also very pleasing that there has been an increase in the number of student achieving attendance of over 90% and over 95%.

Examinations -Yrs 10 and 11

There are a number of important documents included with this letter that refer to the examinations and **it is very important that these are read very carefully.**



Awarded for excellence



Technology Colleges Trust
PROFESSORIAL LEADERSHIP



2002 school achievement award
Department for Education and Skills



GCSE Results

The Year 11 students are still on track to achieve very well in the GCSE this year and if they achieve as expected this will place the school amongst the top 4 performing schools in Hull.

Already 39% of student have achieved a grade C or above in English and 23% of students have achieved a grade C or above in Mathematics.

Now is the time when the last extra effort can make such a big difference to the final results and it is really important that students take full advantage of any extra lessons or support offered by the school.

New Curriculum

The school is starting a new curriculum from September 2009. The new curriculum will allow a better matching of the curriculum to meet student needs.

In particular, the school is really excited about the Family Learning Curriculum that will be followed by a number of students.

However, the biggest changes will be around the options that students will now follow.

All students will now choose options each year starting by choosing at the end of year 8. All student will now choose two options and will study them on a one year course and take the exam at the end of that year.

The initial feedback from parents and the students has been very positive and everyone is eager to start the new school year.

Complaints

If you have a concern about the school, please tell us about it. We welcome suggestions for improving what we do.

Whatever you tell us, this will not affect our support and respect for your child or children. Please tell us of any concerns as soon as possible, as it is difficult to investigate a problem that happened some time ago.

Most complaints can be sorted out quickly by speaking to your child's guidance teacher. If this does not resolve the matter, however, there is a procedure in place that you can follow.

The complaints procedure is available from the school Reception and includes a complaints form that you might find helpful.

Mr Lamb is available to provide support through the process and can be contacted by telephone by calling 577482 or by email on ilamb@sydney-smith.hull.sch.uk.

