

Dear parents and carers,

With a very busy half term behind us, I've much to share with you about important changes and news for the school and for your children. There is much to celebrate and commemorate at Chaucer that I don't have room for in this letter, so please check out our social media accounts (Facebook and Twitter, both linked to our website) to see up to date news on events and successes that we're really proud of, such as our published poet Shereen, our Year 8 boys football team, and everyone involved in the Careers Fair at the end of September.

OFSTED UPDATE

In our response to the recent OFSTED judgement, we have been working with the Trust and a range of improvement partners on a 'Statement of Action' – a working document that shows that we have both the capacity and capability as a school and a Trust to move the school out of Special Measures to Good.

As part of our partnership with families, we invite all parents and carers to an evening meeting where I will share those plans for improvement with you, as well as the support that has been put in place in order to further improve the school. **That meeting will be held on Wednesday the 2nd of November at 6pm in the hall.** There will be an opportunity to ask questions at the end of the meeting, although if your questions or queries are specific to your child, we will set a time to meet you on another occasion to discuss that privately.

Following that meeting, there will be a fortnightly opportunity to set a one-to-one appointment with the headteacher to discuss any questions or queries linked to the improvement of the school and the progress with the statement of action.

Those dates this term are:

Wednesday 16th November 2022 5.30-7pm

Wednesday 30th November 2022 5.30 – 7pm

Wednesday 14th December 2022 5.30-7pm

In order to make a 1:1 appointment with the headteacher on these dates, email enquiries@chaucer.sheffield.sch.uk with a summary of your area of enquiry, and we will get back to you.

As ever, if there is an issue specific to your child, the normal avenues of communication remain open to you; through tutor, Engagement Leader or Year Leader in the first instance. These colleagues can be contacted on the same email address or by ringing school.

Raising Expectations In School

As part of our continuing drive towards first class standards, we continue to raise our expectations of and for students. We've been clear with students in school when there have been expectation changes, and the need to work with us on a journey of improvement for the school. We are extremely proud of the extraordinary amount of support they get from a wide range of staff, and how they can request support as and when they need it.

Being first class is really important to all of us, and we continue to work with students about what it means to be a first class Chaucer student – a respectful, responsible and kind learner and leader committed to achieving the best for our world.

Students have made a real improvement in key areas already this year already, including

- Being in the right place at the right time in school; on time for lessons and their learning.
- No longer using mobile phones in school
- Having a positive attitude to their learning in lessons, and earning positive behaviour points

Thank you very much for your support at home for these areas, which has meant we've seen real improvements in school. Staff have also been working on improvements, with feedback in the classroom, with further developing the right curriculum choices for subjects, and with maintaining high expectations of behaviour.

Our journey together is to see continual improvement, and the following points are our next key areas in school.

What we ask students to do	How we will encourage that positive behaviour
Be responsible enough to go the toilet at break and lunch, and not miss learning time	Encouraging toilet visits during lessons to be on only very rare occasions. (With the exception of existing medical conditions.)
Show pride and self-respect with correct uniform all day	Expect students to have shirt tucked in, tie on, and blazer on around site. Communicating with families around getting and wearing correct uniform If a student refuses to wear correct uniform they have with them, they will be removed from their lesson.
Increase their attendance and punctuality to school in the morning	Expect students to attend a detention for being late to school twice in a week. (except for cases of exceptional travel difficulties)
Show responsible behaviour on corridors and around site	Carefully monitoring and modelling what good behaviour looks like.

	<p>Not accepting unruly or boisterous behaviour in any areas of the school, at any time.</p> <p>Improving and reducing the outdoor areas of school for social times, while adding to the activities available at break and lunchtime for students to get involved with</p>
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The vast majority of students are working hard to meet expectations. We have celebrated with small rewards events for hundreds of students this week, and look forward to agreeing some rewards trips at the end of this term for students who consistently meet expectations.


I am clear that students who fail to meet expectations will receive fair and consistent sanctions as we support all students to be successful in their school day, and alongside families, work towards a first class education for all at Chaucer School.

We are proud of Chaucer School, Chaucer students and this community. Thank you for taking the time to read this information, and we look forward to continuing to work with you to improve Chaucer School as it works towards the first class education for all. I hope to see you at the first OFSTED update event after half term.

A final plea – it's important we have on record your child's doctor's surgery for in case of emergency – and those rare occasions do crop up from time to time. Please ring reception or use the enquiries@chaucer.sheffield.sch.uk email to let us know that information if you hadn't already done so, and help us keep your child safe.

Thank you to all for your continued support for students and the school this half term. We return to school on Monday the 31st of October.

Best wishes



Joanna Crewe

Headteacher

