



St Katherine's School



23 February 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

On Monday afternoon I held an assembly with students in Years 12 and 13 to inform them of a change in expectation surrounding non-contact periods.

Our role as a sixth form is to develop our students into well-rounded, successful individuals, from an academic and social perspective. I want our young people to leave our sixth form as confident, well-informed citizens of the world, who will make significant positive contributions to society. Attendance during the school day is crucial to ensure they have both the support in place to be successful and the opportunities to experience wider development beyond their chosen course of study.

I have taken the decision to withdraw the flexibility that non-contact periods afford our students, and ask that all students attend sixth form from 8:45am until 14:20pm. This includes attendance to daily tutor time, which we are re-launching with staff and students. This time will be used to develop the students' wider social competencies and by tutors to provide timely academic coaching and support. Following afternoon registration, there remains flexibility for students to go home, should they not have a lesson. The expectation is that they spend their non-contact time in school either in lessons or in a study space working independently.

I recognise that this may necessitate a change in the working habits of some students and it is not a decision I have taken lightly. I strongly believe this is a key ingredient in supporting our students to be successful as they progress through our sixth form.

This change will come into effect from Monday 26th February and I appreciate your anticipated support in this matter.

If you have any questions or comments about how we can further support your child to be the best they can be, I would be happy to discuss them.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Steve Colebourne
Assistant Headteacher (Head of Sixth Form)

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