



October 2018

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

As the weather starts to feel much more autumnal, we come to the end of our first, and longest, half term. We have been delighted to welcome our new year 7 cohort who have settled into the school community extremely well. At the opposite end of the school, we have begun with a week of mock exams for our first year 11 cohort, all who very much enjoy the 'We ♥ year 11' mantra adopted across the school. All students signed a good luck message for them as they embark on their final year towards GCSE success.

We were really pleased to see so many parents at our year 11 information evening and the year 10 parent forum meeting on work experience information. We are looking at increasing the opportunities for parents to be involved in the life of the school and will begin some parent partnership meetings where parent(s)/carer(s) will be able to work in conjunction with our student council on key school agendas. Please reply to the email which is being sent out shortly about this or simply contact the school office to express an interest if this is something that you would like to be part of.

This newsletter is a condensed version of the one received at the end of each full term and includes a section from our new student council executive committee. I would like to thank them for their hard work on this agenda as they work towards involving and representing the student body in the life of the school.

Thank you all for your continued support and I wish you all a restful half term

Mrs J Brown  
Head of School

## Sixth Form



We are delighted to be able to launch our Sixth Form at Nottingham Free School, starting in September 2019. Our offer is for an A Level focused, supportive Sixth Form focused on ensuring all students get the best grades and wider development needed for university, apprenticeships and employment. We will be accepting applications online from our year 11 cohort and external candidates. Please take some time to look at our Sixth Form section on the school website, which has all the A Level course information, entry requirements and our online application form. Once completed, students are able to book an interview time as well. Interviews will take place from November to January.

Regular bulletins giving updates about this provision will begin after half term and our newly formed Sixth Form student committee will begin to start shaping elements of their experience too.

We invite you to attend the Sixth Form open evening on Wednesday 7 November 6 – 8pm. Places for this can be booked via the school website.

## Canteen

As you will be aware, we started in September with a new catering company: Aspens. Our new menus have proved to be very popular with our students and these are all on our website to view. Associated prices of items and meal deals will be added over the next few weeks too. You can track the money spent by your child using the iPay system on a daily basis.

## School uniform

Just a reminder to all students and parents that all school uniform items can be bought at any time during the school day directly from the school office. Despite the workload for the school and how busy the uniform days get, we are determined to keep this provision in school as it significantly reduces the cost for parent(s)/carer(s).

## iPay

All payments to school should now be through the iPay system or by cheque. If you do not have the details for this online payment system, then please contact Mrs Wayne, our finance officer on [contact@nottinghamfreeschool.co.uk](mailto:contact@nottinghamfreeschool.co.uk)

## Children in Need

We will be supporting Children in Need this year with a non-uniform day and a variety of fundraising activities all run by the charity enrichment group. The non-uniform day will take place on Friday 16 November and will require a £1 contribution. Students are encouraged to bring in some extra cash on that day to participate in the other activities available. A big thank you in advance to the charity group for all of their organisation towards this.

## Attendance

Attendance is a key priority at Nottingham Free School as missing school has a direct impact on how well a student achieves. We aim for every student to have at least 97% attendance.

Our current whole school attendance is 97.2% which is a great start to the year and we are determined to keep it up.

Please see our term dates for the rest of the academic year on the school website (Information – Term Dates – Related Downloads) in order to avoid booking any holidays during term time.

## Communication Home

All letters and newsletters are emailed to you and are also available on our school website (under the information tab). Please let us know if you have not received any messages or have not been able to log onto your INSIGHT account - all contact with school for general enquiries can be dealt with through [contact@nottinghamfreeschool.co.uk](mailto:contact@nottinghamfreeschool.co.uk)

Also a reminder to let the school office know if any of your contact information has changed - [contact@nottinghamfreeschool.co.uk](mailto:contact@nottinghamfreeschool.co.uk)

## Future key dates

Friday 26 October	Last day of half term for all students
Monday 5 November	First day back for all students
Wednesday 7 November	Sixth Form Open Evening 6 – 8pm
Monday 12 November	Start of Year 11 Mock exams part 2
Tuesday 4 December	Year 7 Parents evening
Tuesday 11 December	Pantomime trip – all years
Friday 14 December	Last day of term for all students
Monday 7 January	First day back for all students

# **NOTTINGHAM FREE SCHOOL**

## **SCHOOL COUNCIL**

### **NEWS LETTER 1st HALF TERM**



NOTTINGHAM  
FREE SCHOOL

#### **First Half Term with years 7–11**

This is Nottingham Free School's first year with five year groups, and we have a full group of new year 7s who are all enjoying the experience of starting at a new school. With 6th form starting in just a year's time, the yr11s have completed their mocks and are awaiting results. Whilst the rest of the years are completing baseline tests for their first scores of the year.

Plans for the year:

- Discuss changes to cafeteria or knowledge organisers.
- Children in Need in November i.e. non-uniform day, teacher karaoke/ singing completion.

#### **New Year, New School Council**

With the new year we thought it only right to have a brand new student council with a brand new executive committee.

**Head of Council:** Archie Griffiths (yr10)

**Deputy Head:** Patrycja Florek (yr11)

**Secretaries:** Robyn Edwards (yr10) & Emily DiMambro-Mossdrop (yr10)

**Treasurers:** Max Truman (yr10) and Finlay Wilson (yr10)

**Teaching and learning:** Fred Bamford (yr11) and Ellie Stopper (yr11)

**Media and Advertisement:** Saira-Bano Mehmood (yr10)

News Editors:  
Emily DiMambro-  
Mossdrop  
Robyn Edwards

***“everything is  
out of reach  
until you reach  
it ”***

This year we hope to be more involved, make some changes to the school and improve school life for all the students and their well being. As a start, we are organising parent and student meetings where parents can discuss any comments, contributions or thoughts they may have about key parts of school life. Please contact the school office if you are interested in being part of this.

Archie Griffiths –  
Head of Council