



Nether Stowe School

Be Respectful. Be Ambitious. Be Resilient.

Dear Parent/Carer

We hope that you have had an excellent half-term break and thank you for your continued support. This half term is an exceptionally busy one with trial examinations and assessment weeks taking place, therefore by sharing several key updates with you, we can work together to support your child.

Year 11 and 13 Trial Examinations

Students will be sitting another series of trial examinations over the next two weeks. Students received their timetables before the half term break. The purpose of these examinations will be to give students further practice under exam conditions. The data gathered from these assessments will also be used to plan in class and after school intervention to get students ready for their upcoming summer exams.

In exceptional circumstances examination boards may ask schools for supporting evidence of a student's performance under exam conditions. A student's performance in these trial examinations may be used for this purpose so it is essential that they perform to the best of their ability. The timetable for the exam series can be found on our website.

Assessment Week

From the 3rd of March all other year groups (Yr7-10,12) will be completing internal assessments as part of our second Assessment Week. During this week, the school day will be split into three 90-minute sessions, with an early finish for students of 2:30pm. Students who get the school bus can remain on site in the student reception area to wait for the buses to arrive.

During the Assessment Week, when students are not completing timetabled assessments, they will be revising independently. The assessment week timetable can be found on the school website under the parents and exams tab. Information about the content covered in each assessment will be found on your child's Showbie classes.

Students must ensure that they arrive to school on time and in full school uniform with the correct equipment.

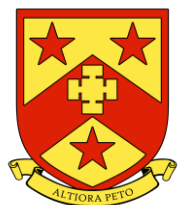
All students are required to bring the following equipment:

- A fully charged iPad each day. Some of the assessments are online and students will not be able to access them without their device.

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- PE kit on the day they have a PE lesson.
- Black pen, pencil, ruler, rubber, protractor, compass, and a calculator. We will not be able to loan equipment to students.
- A set of headphones which are compatible with their iPad. For specific subject assessments students may be required to bring in other equipment such as colouring pencils or musical instruments.
- Students will have revision material available to them via Showbie. Subjects may also provide knowledge organisers for the topics we have covered in school. Students can also bring in their own revision guides and material to use during preparation time.
- A reading book.

Following the assessment series students will have an 'upgrade' fortnight during which they will have the opportunity to respond to teacher feedback and set target areas for improvement.

Once all the assessment data is collected and verified you will receive a report home. Further information on how to access this information on will be sent closer to the time. If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Updates to Our School's Behaviour Policy

We also want to share some important updates to our school's behaviour policy which will take effect from 24th of February. These changes are part of our ongoing efforts to improve behaviour and culture within our school community, ensuring that all students can learn and achieve excellent outcomes in a safe and respectful environment.

We will be introducing our three school rules. These link to our school values and will act as a consistent message to highlight our expectations. The three rules are:

Be Ambitious: Be ready to learn and work hard.

Be Respectful: Be kind to others and take care of the school and community.

Be Resilient: Never give up and always do the right thing.

We have also recategorised our behaviour system to make it much more simple for students to understand. All behaviours will be linked more clearly to a phase and sanctions and consequences for poor behaviour will be linked to each phase.

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We have moved discriminatory behaviour to the top phase to highlight to students how serious we consider this matter.

Phase 1: Low-level behaviour in class behaviour such as equipment issues will result in a phase 1. This is a warning and doesn't lead to a detention.

Phase 2: Continuation of phase 1 behaviours will escalate to a phase 2. This will result in a 30-minute after school detention. Some behaviours will result in an immediate Phase 2. These behaviours include a mobile phone being seen or heard, chewing gum and incorrect uniform.

Phase 3: Continuation of phase 2 behaviours will escalate to a phase 3. This will result in a 60 minute after school detention. Some behaviours will result in an immediate phase 3. These include truancy, significant disruption or persistent defiance.

Phase 4: Continuation of Phase 3 behaviours will escalate to a phase 4. This will result in a period of time in internal isolation, as a minimum. Some behaviours will result in an immediate phase 4. These include serious behaviour incidents such as racism, violence, or harmful sexual behaviour.

A full copy of this new model is available on the school website here: [Behaviour Expectations and Praise and Rewards – Nether Stowe School](#)

Changes to homework (KRP):

Previously a lack of homework would result in a 30 minute after-school detention. Whilst we feel it acted as a deterrent for not doing homework, we considered it preferable to have the students to complete the homework as part of their sanction. Therefore, instead of the 30 minute after school detention, students who do not do their homework will be required to attend a compulsory lunch intervention. These sessions will have their attendance monitored and younger students will be supported by Sixth Form students. Missed compulsory interventions will result in a 30-minute after-school detention. Repeated 'lack of KRP' logs will trigger communication with parents/carers.

Communication with Parents:

We believe that effective communication with parents is crucial in supporting our students. We notify you of attendance, college points, detentions as well as negative points through Class Charts. Some parents still have not signed up for Class Charts to stay informed about their child's behaviour, attendance, and achievements. This platform will allow you to have positive conversations at home and support your child's

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progress and we ask you to sign up as a priority. All the communication on how to sign up has been sent to you recently. If you require support in signing-up, please contact the school office.

Moving forward, we will be using Class Charts to also notify you if your son/daughter is placed in Internal Exclusion. We will also be using Class Charts to send messages relating to other school events. In this period, we will be pushing letters via email and Class Charts but over time we intent to transition over to Class Charts fully for messages home. Please sign-up if you have not already and kindly turn your notifications on.

We are committed to working collaboratively with you to create a positive and productive learning environment for all our students. If you have any questions or concerns about these changes, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you for your continued support.

The Senior Leadership Team

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