

01st July 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

As the academic year draws to a close, I am writing to explain a slight change in our plans for the end of this term. However, I must start by offering my thanks to all of you, and the pupils and students, for your collective support through this year. Even though they may not receive this letter directly, I would like to draw special attention to those pupils and students who have just finished Year 11 and Year 13. Their conduct through what is a very challenging and extended examination period was fantastic, and they were a credit to all of us and themselves.

Last day of summer term: Thursday 18th July

Having spent my first year in the school, and listened to the views of pupils and staff, we have planned a significant amount of reorganisation and decoration in the main building over the summer break. Some areas will be re-painted, a large number of carpets and blinds will be replaced, and a large number of chairs and tables will either be replaced or refurbished. Our I.T. infrastructure also requires significant investment, and so we are starting by replacing the cabling throughout the main school. Some departments will also be moving to different parts of the building, in order to better organise pupils' learning.

These works will require some rooms, corridors and other areas to be emptied, and large amounts of materials and resources to be moved from one part of the school to another. In order to allow all of this to take place safely, I intend to close the school to pupils on Friday 19th July, so the last day of this academic year for pupils will be Thursday 18th July. While I appreciate this is relatively late notice, I do hope you can support us as we try to ensure pupils' experiences at Kirk Hallam continue to improve next year.

Even though we only have a few weeks left, we still have lots to squeeze in before the end of the year! Years 10 and 12 have their work experience weeks when they will gain valuable insights into the world of work, and start to develop a stronger sense of where they hope to be heading by this time next year. We have celebration trips for Years 7 to 10 in the last week, Geography students will be completing fieldwork studies, and Expressive Arts have a trip to London followed by a showcase evening here at school. Those pupils joining us in Year 7 in September will be participating in our induction days, while at the other end of their journey, our Year 11s will be celebrating the end of their five years with us at our Year 11 Prom.

It only remains for me to wish you all an enjoyable summer, and I look forward to seeing everyone ready for next academic year in September.

Yours sincerely,



Mark Watts
Head of School