



KLA/ LCU/ KMC

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you have all enjoyed a great break and would like to take the opportunity to wish you all a very Happy New Year. The purpose of this letter is to update you on some of the main arrangements for the coming half term.

It has been great to welcome all learners back to school today. Just a reminder that learners should be on site for 8.35am in order that they are ready to attend their tutor group at 8.40am.

**Key Events Spring Term 1**

Please find below the key dates for the first half of the Spring Term. Further information will follow for each of these events. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact school via the [admin@uptonhigh.co.uk](mailto:admin@uptonhigh.co.uk) email address.

Date	Event
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 13 Mock Results Day
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	Y11 Information Evening – Supporting your child’s revision 5.30pm-6.30pm
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> January	Y9 Information Evening – Options 5.30pm-7.30pm
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 11 Parents Evening (live – by appointment)
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> February	Year 13 Parents Evening (live – by appointment)
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> and Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Duke of Edinburgh Gold Training
Week Commencing 5 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 13 Charity Week
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> and Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> February	Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Training
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Non-uniform day in support of Year 13 Charity Week
Week Commencing 12 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 12 Work Experience
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> to Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> February	School Production – Oliver!
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February	School closes to learners at the normal time of 3.10pm

**Home School Communication**

Home school communication is important to us at Upton-by-Chester High School. For most communication, you would contact your child’s form tutor in the first instance.

In each year group we have a team of staff made up of a Head of Year and a Pastoral Support Manager. Their details are shown below:

Year Group	Head of Year	Pastoral Support Manager	Email Contact
7	Mrs J Dey	Mrs A Wynne	<a href="mailto:Year7@uptonhigh.co.uk">Year7@uptonhigh.co.uk</a>
8	Mr S Togher	Mrs S Maxwell	<a href="mailto:Year8@uptonhigh.co.uk">Year8@uptonhigh.co.uk</a>
9	Mr S Wearden	Miss J Hewitt	<a href="mailto:Year9@uptonhigh.co.uk">Year9@uptonhigh.co.uk</a>
10	Mr J Quirk	Miss C Carter	<a href="mailto:Year10@uptonhigh.co.uk">Year10@uptonhigh.co.uk</a>
11	Mr M Jones	Mrs D Bowen	<a href="mailto:Year11@uptonhigh.co.uk">Year11@uptonhigh.co.uk</a>
12	Miss R Simpson	Mrs T Stickels	<a href="mailto:Year12@uptonhigh.co.uk">Year12@uptonhigh.co.uk</a>

13	Mr P Lewis	Mrs T Stickels	<a href="mailto:Year13@uptonhigh.co.uk">Year13@uptonhigh.co.uk</a>
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I just wanted to remind you that the parent bulletin will continue to be sent to all parents / carers via email. This is our main form of communication with you and contains lots of useful information. We will be updating the parent bulletin and the school website over the next few weeks based on feedback from our recent parent forums, in the meantime please do make sure you have a look at this each week so you can support your child as fully as possible.

### **School Rebuilding Programme**

I know it seems some time since the school was announced as one of the schools in the DfE's School Rebuilding Programme, it was actually back in July 2022. Since this time extensive work has taken place as part of a very detailed feasibility study – this determines whether the school can be rebuilt or not. I am pleased to confirm that plans are now advancing and we are hoping to begin initial work on more detailed planning throughout the remaining part of this academic year. As always I will keep you informed.

### **Engage@upton**

Engage@upton clubs will resume week commencing 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 apart from breakfast club and hub club which will run this week as normal. The new timetable for after school clubs will be shared by the end of the week, please make sure learners look at the new timetable and engage in the amazing range of activities.

### **Sixth Form Applications**

We are currently welcoming applications to the Sixth Form. The deadline for applications is Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2024. If your child is in Year 11 and they are hoping to remain at Upton-by-Chester High School for Sixth Form please ensure that they have applied for their place. We are already oversubscribed but hope to support as many of our current learners as possible to continue to attend the school.

### **Closure of the school due to adverse weather**

Please find below a reminder of the procedure for closure of the school due to adverse weather.

In the unlikely event of a closure, we will communicate quickly and as fully as possible with all members of the school community. This will be carried out as per the guidance below.

#### ***In the event of extreme weather / emergency prior to the start of the school day.***

A decision will be made between 6.00 am and 7.00 am as to whether the school should be open or needs to be closed. In the event of closure, the school will, by 7.30am ensure that:

- An automated text or email message is sent to parents and staff via the SchoolComms system
- The school website has been updated
- An update is available on our twitter account
- Local media will be informed as appropriate

#### ***In the event of extreme weather / emergency during the school day.***

If the school is open but exceptional conditions occur during the day, we will continually monitor the risks. It is very often safer to keep learners in school rather than closing the school.

However, there may be cases where this is not possible.

Should the decision be taken to close the school we will inform parents via;

- An automated text or email message sent from the SchoolComms system
- A posting within the news section of the school website
- An update on our twitter account

We will also encourage learners to contact home. We understand that it may be difficult for some parents to collect their child and therefore contingency plans will be put in place to ensure that the school remains open, where possible, until all learners are collected.



# Learning to shape the future

Headteacher: Mr L Cummins B.Ed (Hons), M.Ed, NPQH

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I look forward to working with the whole school community over the coming term to ensure that Upton-by-Chester High school continues to provide a high quality education which allows all young people to shape their own future positively and have a positive impact on the future of others.

Yours sincerely,

L Cummins  
Headteacher

