



Devonport High School for Boys

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Dear Parent or Carer

We welcomed our staff and students back to school this week and, following another set of excellent results this summer, our best ever on headline measures, everyone here at DHSB is excited about the new academic year ahead.

This letter contains several important updates for the start of the year.

Exit arrangements at the end of the school day

The main exit onto Paradise Road for all pedestrians will be through the main drive gate (the pedestrian gate closest to reception will be locked). No vehicles will be permitted to arrive or leave the main school site between 3:20pm and 3:30pm (to allow all students to safely exit the school and board buses).

There is provision in place for students with special access arrangements.

We already ask you as parents and carers not to pick up your child from the main school entrance on Paradise Road at the end of the school day as this is an extremely busy exit. Please do not try to enter this area to drive into the school site, to turn around or even pull in to pick up your child as you will not be permitted any access from 3:20pm - 3:30pm.

Please also refrain from dropping off in this area in the morning as it is busy with many students walking in through the main gate. Thank you in anticipation for your support with this.

Get Ahead Club

As usual the Learning Commons will be available after school for students to use both the space and the resources to complete homework or to catch up on work that is incomplete or missed. This includes the use of ICT facilities and the books in this area.

The area will be staffed and support will be available for students who may require additional provision in completing tasks or finding resources. Students will also be encouraged to support one another in their learning where appropriate.

The timings for Get Ahead Club are from 3:20pm to 4:30pm (Monday to Thursday) and the provision will begin on Monday 9 September 2019. More information about Get Ahead and our online booking form is available at this link.

<http://www.dhsb.org/getahead/>

School Development Plan

I would also encourage you to view our new School Development Plan for this year. This plan is a result of a consultation with students, staff and parents during the summer term and following the review of the achievements of last year. This includes analysis of the survey completed by all stakeholders. I will be keeping you updated regularly on our progress towards these priorities in an extended version of the Head's Blog once each term. You can view this at any time via the website.

<http://www.dhsb.org/school-development-plan-2019-2020/>

Data update (for existing parents)

SIMS Parent View

Please use this app to help you to check the quality of contact information that is currently available within our MIS system (SIMS). It will help us to always have the most up-to-date contact information in case of emergency. It is also a quick reference point for school term and contact details. If you have more than one child at school, you'll have access to information for all your children within the same app. Changes that you make are submitted to the school and confirmed before being updated on the main database as a permanent change. Once the change has been made the app is updated. Please bear with us at the beginning of term if the update process takes several days.

Data update (for new parents)

We would encourage parents to download some very helpful apps around this:

SIMS Parent View

Please use this app to help you to check the quality of information that has been brought forward from your child's previous school. It will help us to always have the most up-to-date contact information in case of emergency. It is also a quick reference point for school term and contact details. If you have more than one child at school, you'll have access to information for all your children within the same app.

Over the coming days you will receive an email from Capita education which will contain all the necessary information including an access code which will enable you to register as a user of the product.

Wisepay Online Payments App

Please consider using the Wisepay app which will enable very quick tops up and purchases as an alternative to using the link on the school website. Download from the relevant app store and use the following activation code which links the app to DHS Boys.

Wisepay Activation Code - 77647113

Class Charts and Homeworky

You can access information on attendance, behaviour and rewards through Class Charts. This provides a real time update of the progress of your child and you already have an individual parent access code. You can access Class Charts via a parent or student app available on IOS and android. Please search your app store to download this free of charge and encourage your child to set this up for themselves too. If they have forgotten their access code they should see their Form Tutor. Alternatively you can visit Class Charts through the following link.

<https://www.classcharts.com/parent/login>

Once on the Class Charts website we advise that you listen to the short tutorial to assist you in logging in.

Please remember that Homeworky can be accessed at this link <http://www.homeworky.co.uk/>

You can search for homework set by subject, year group or teacher, however if you would like to see just the homework set for your child you can input a specific code (this is the same code that you use to access information about your child on Class Charts). If you have forgotten this code please contact Lorna Taylor our Family Support Advisor at fsa@dhsb.org.

Please note that all new students in Years 7 and 12 will receive their login details for Homeworky and Class Charts in the next few days.

Keeping up to date

Please remember to access our website on the Parents and Students page where you will find everything you need including links to Wisepay and Class Charts, and folders with copies of school letters, documents and policies (please note all folders will be updated in the next week). <http://www.dhsb.org/parents-students/>

As always thank you in advance for your continued support this year and don't forget to catch up on the news from the first week at DHSB via my Head's Blog at this link.

<http://www.dhsb.org/heads-blog/>

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DR', is positioned above the typed name.

Dan Roberts
Headteacher