

Head of School

Friday 13th January 2023

UPDATE

Dear parents/carers and students,

It has been a very busy first full week back after the Christmas break.

This week Year 10 students received a presentation about Vaping. This raised the awareness of the health concerns, the consequences for vaping and other concerns to be aware of such as counterfeit goods and what to look out for. The students were very engaged in the session and have all now been very well informed around the consequences and concerns related to vaping and the consequences for vaping in school or/and on school transport.

Our Year 11 students this week started the National Tutoring Programme where individuals are assigned an online tutor to deliver revision materials to support and maximise their grade in a particular subject. All of the tutors are undergraduates that have undertaken a rigorous selection process to enable them to deliver lessons in their specialist subject area. The student feedback was very encouraging from their first session and we hope that this, along with other platforms such as GCSEPod, will support engaging students in a different way of learning and preparation skills for their examinations. Working online with tutor programmes has many benefits to further aid student success. However, we have also made our students aware this week of the negatives of being online.

On Tuesday this week, I delivered a safeguarding assembly to Years 7 and 8 focused on the 'Dangers of Social Media'. It has been an important issue to raise in the school, for our students to understand the legalities about the platforms, how to remain safe online and to think twice when in receipt of information as fake profiles and scams are certainly on the increase. Please remind your children regarding the safety of using social media platforms, the school will investigate, deal and support with any issues or concerns of cyberbullying, or creating fake accounts to cyberbully. If there is evidence of this from a student at the school we will provide the necessary sanctions in relation to the case. We will continue to educate all of our students regarding the positives and negatives of social media in order to keep our school community safe.

Year 11 students will be receiving a mock exam results day next Thursday during afternoon registration. This enables students to receive their results in assembly to be able to celebrate their success or to utilise the results as a guide for priority areas to target before the summer examinations. I would like to remind all Year 11 parents that there are three national dates set aside for summer exams – these are Thursday 8th June, Thursday 15th June and Wednesday 28th June 2023. Please do not book any holidays before Thursday 29th June 2023 as this time may be needed.



I am incredibly proud of how all students wear their uniform with pride and care about their presentation. However, may I take this opportunity to remind students and parents that false nails and fake eyelashes or extensions are not allowed and will be expected to be removed during school hours.

Finally, I would like to remind parents that we offer instrumental and singing lessons to all students. We currently have availability for lessons in singing, drums and piano – please email fshaw@gilesacademy.co.uk for further details.

I hope you all have a fantastic weekend.

Kindest regards,



Miss Katie Belcher

Head of School, Giles Academy

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- www.instagram.com/GilesAcademySLAT
- www.facebook.com/GilesAcademy
- www.twitter.com/GilesSLAT