



## RUSKIN SPORTS COLLEGE

**Our Ref:** HTSAParent/BRE/JOD

**Date:** 27<sup>th</sup> March 2013

**Student:** \*\*\*\*\*

Dear Parent/Carer

As we approach the Easter break, I am writing to thank you for all your support during what has been a relatively short but very busy term.

In May, you will receive the latest edition of our school newsletter, and you will be able to read about the range of events that our students and staff have been involved in.

When we return after the Easter holiday, Year 11 students will be on a countdown to their final examinations. We wish all of our students the very best as they prepare for examinations by doing a sensible amount of revision over the holiday weeks. I would urge Year 11 students to spend the mornings revising in sensible chunks, building in time for rest and relaxation in the afternoons. That way, the revision doesn't get overlooked! It is an important part of exam preparation and will certainly increase grades.

### **Insight**

As you know, in my last letter I mentioned a new programme that we have installed entitled 'Insight'. Insight is a data information package which will enable you to view specific details relating to your son/daughter. With a username and password, you will be able to log on and see the following information:

- Personal details
- Timetable
- School notices
- Parentpay
- School dinner choices
- Rewards and behaviours
- Homework

Your username and password is enclosed with this letter and you will be able to use the link given to access Insight immediately. If you experience any problems, please contact school. We anticipate that you will find the new package informative and helpful. Certainly, you will be able to check what homework has been set and when it is due in. This will supplement information contained within the planner.

### **Website**

Our school website is now being trialled and we hope that it will be live very soon. We have had some delays with the launch of the website, and I apologise for the delay.

### **SEN funding**

Parents of students with SEN will be aware that we have experienced significant funding cuts in our new budgets. As a result, SEN provision is going to be affected. All Cheshire East schools have been affected and schools are working with the Local Authority to find sensible ways forward.

Some parents will have received individual letters from us at school. If you are worried, do contact us and we will continue to keep you as informed as possible.

### **Attendance and punctuality**

One of the major barriers to achievement is poor attendance. We encourage students to be in school every day and we would urge parents to support us in this. Regular absence makes students feel less confident in school, they can be more isolated from their friends and, invariably, class work and homework is affected. Please, send your son/daughter to school unless they are seriously unwell. If they are feeling a bit under the weather in the morning, send them in and we will monitor them. Furthermore, please avoid holidays in term time. We really do appreciate the difference in costs to families, but it does affect learning. To support our attendance drive, there are new rewards and prizes on offer for excellent attendance.

### **Academy**

I have no further update at this moment in time with regard to our application to become an Academy. As soon as I have information, I will share it with parents/carers.

### **Uniform**

Finally, the usual reminders re uniform (including hairstyles, eyebrows and piercings) The expectations regarding uniform are clear and they are in the planner. Students DO know exactly what is allowed. Don't be tempted to allow them to have inappropriate cuts or piercings as we will have to take action on their return from the Easter break. Thanks to the overwhelming majority of parents who support us in our drive to maintain high standards. Parents sometimes ask how uniform impacts on educational standards. Quite simply, it is a school rule and if we allow it to be broken it encourages other rules to be broken. Feeling and looking smart and professional affects how students behave and work. Thank you for your support with this.

### **Contact**

As always, feel free to email me directly on [brette@ruskin.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:brette@ruskin.cheshire.sch.uk) if you have any questions or suggestions. In addition, please keep in touch with the relevant form tutor so that we can keep lines of communication open.

In addition please don't forget that we have Parent Drop In sessions on a Thursday afternoon from 2.30-4.30pm. To book an appointment please contact Ms Webster or Mrs Brewin

On behalf of the staff and our governing body, I would like to wish you all a relaxing Easter holiday.

With very best wishes.

Yours sincerely



E S Brett  
Headteacher

### **Insight Username & Password for \*\*\*\*\***

Username: \*\*\*\*\*

Password: \*\*\*\*\*