

The Marches School
part of the Marches Academy Trust
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Reference: TS/CD

Dear Parent/Carer,

Exam Class 2023

Welcome back to another action packed year at The Marches School. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as your son/daughter's Head of Academic Progress.

Over the next two years we are going to build upon some core principles that will inspire the language we use and the activities we do. These include:

- "Standards and Values" - focusing on: presentation; manners; tolerance; self-achievement and litter.
- "Mindfulness" – focusing on: Emotional control and Growth Mindset.
- "Positive Impact" – Respect; Good Deeds; Community and work on school spaces.

My vision is one of a year group of high-achieving, respectful, well behaved and, simply put, fundamentally good human beings. Having had the chance to get to know the year group over the final two weeks of the previous academic year, I have no doubt that this is what we have – and it is time to show this off!

As you will see from the dates below, there is a lot going on this year. Year 8 is an incredibly important year for our students. Passions for particular subjects begin to grow, there are opportunities to take part in extra-curricular activities and of course, we are one step closer to the all-important GCSEs. With GCSE choices just over twelve months away, I encourage you to have conversations with your child over the coming year regarding what their passions are and where their strengths lie.

As ever, we continue to have extremely high expectations in terms of uniform and behaviour and ask for your support in this too. Your child will now have a new planner and I ask that you take time to read through the expectations at the front, and sign the Home/School agreement. Your child's tutor will be checking both their uniform and their equipment regularly to ensure students are thoroughly prepared to take an active role in lessons.



I would also like to take this opportunity to remind you of our phone policy for students. Whilst phones are permitted to be brought into school, responsibility for it rests with the student and the school will take no financial responsibility for loss or damage. Phones are not to be visible at any time between the hours of 8.30am and 3.00pm, unless a member of staff expressly asks the student(s) to get their phone(s) out to use in a lesson. Phones should be kept in the students' bag and turned off. If a student's phone is visible (this includes being in pockets) then the phone will be confiscated. The phone can be collected by a parent on that day before 4.00pm or the student may come with a note from home on the next working day to collect their phone at 3.00pm. Full details of this can also be found in your child's planner.

Finally, I would like to thank you for your support over Year 7, Mr. Kemble passes on his thanks and best wishes to yourself and the students, and I am sure I can count on your continued support.

Please find below some of the most important dates this year, however, this is not an exhaustive list.

Key dates

<u>Week Beginning</u>	<u>Event Details</u>
20 th April	Core Subject Exams
27 th April	Parents' Evening
8 th June	Option Subject Exams

I look forward to the year ahead and if you have any questions or concerns at any time, please do not hesitate to contact your child's form tutor in the first instance.

Yours sincerely,

Mr C Davies
Head of Academic Progress Year 8