

Wednesday 15th November 2023

Dear parent/carer,

SUBJECT: Year 9 SLT Chat (Tuesday 21st November 2023)

This year is both a critical and exciting time for your child. Over the course of the coming months, they will focus their minds on the GCSE subjects they wish to study next year, and it is important we support your child to ensure they begin their GCSE studies with the strongest foundation from which to develop.

It is therefore important that we work with you closely and communicate as regularly as possible with you during this transition year.

With this in mind, there will be a few initial events and areas of focus over the coming half-term.

Year 9 SLT Chat: Tuesday 21st November 2023 (5-6pm).

We would like to invite you to an important event organised by the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) for all parents and Year 9 pupils. This event will take place on Tuesday 21st November and aims to provide valuable insights into the upcoming year and what you can expect for your child.

Due to COVID, many of you may not have had the opportunity to attend an in-person school event. We hope that by bringing us all together we can share information, address any queries you may have and offer reassurance about the exciting year ahead for you and your child.



No booking is necessary and everyone is welcome to join us in the main school hall at 5pm. The event will conclude at approximately 6pm.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Year 9 Focus and Celebration Month:

We will also be starting a Year 9 Focus and Celebration Month starting on Monday 20th November.

During this month there will be a great focus on praise and positive communication. A number of pupils will also be invited on positive reward trips (for example to the Tees Barrage Air Trail) to ensure their daily successes are appreciated and recognised.

Ensuring that every child has a right to learn

I would like to reassure all parents that we will not tolerate a minority of pupils who think it appropriate to disturb the learning of others or who delay the start of learning. Any pupil behaving in this way has a significant impact on the learning of others and therefore we ask that all pupils are aware of the lesson expectations that follow.

Lesson Expectations and Consistency

- All teaching staff will meet and greet all pupils positively at their classroom door.
- Pupils will line up and enter the classroom respectfully and in silence and begin the learning activity whilst the teacher takes the register.
- To facilitate positive learning and mature discussion, pupils will be silent unless told otherwise by the teacher. Pupils will of course be allowed to communicate, debate and do group work when directed by the teacher.
- Teaching staff will issue Epraise points to recognise all the amazing work taking place and daily rewards and positive communication home will be issued in recognition of this.
- However, if a pupil is NOT following expectations, there will be a clear stepped approach
 - RS1: A clear verbal warning will be given.
 - RS2: An RS2 will be recorded and you will be able to see this via MCAS.
 - RS3: Your child will be removed INSTANTLY and taken to our Reflection Room for 6 full lessons. The member of staff WILL ring you, the same day if possible, to discuss.
- Pupils will work in SILENCE in the Reflection Room (or an appropriate other venue if required/as per individual pupil support plan). If they do not follow expectations here, parents will be contacted IMMEDIATELY and sanctions will be escalated accordingly. We reserve the right to use suspensions, according to our behaviour policy, to sanction pupils who are disturbing the learning of others.
- Members of staff will follow any individual support plans, and ensure the needs of all pupils are met and clearly understood.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with our Senior Leadership Team should you have any queries. I am sure you appreciate that our entire focus is to celebrate and recognise the many positives and ensure all pupils are enabled to do the very best they can here at Risedale.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,



James Yates

Deputy Headteacher

Yates.J@risedale.org.uk