

20 June 2024

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Dear Parent or Carer

Expectations of Year 12 students: school IDs, lanyards, and mobile phones

Staff here are very impressed with Year 12 as a year group, and we have high hopes for their outcomes next year.

They're now the oldest students at Tallis and are shortly to begin the induction processes for Year 13 – they are now less than 12 months away from the start of their final A-level or BTEC exams. We will write later this month about this transition into Year 13 and what tasks should be undertaken over the summer.

As the oldest students onsite they 'set the tone' for younger students, of course. We are writing to you so that between us we can all remind Year 12 students of the school's standard explanations – we have this kind of 'reset' at this time every year, mainly because we can't remind students in in-person assemblies during the exam season which began a while ago now.

Our first in-person assembly with your Year 12 child will be on Tuesday 25 June, and we ask that you speak to your child about our collective expectations before then. Would you, please?

Lanyards and IDs - no entry to site without these, starting Wednesday 26 June

We don't have a uniform but all sixth form students must wear a school ID around their neck on an orange lanyard whilst they're on site. We check at the gate, but it's vexing for staff to have to remind lanyardless students in the corridors. Would you mind reminding your young person of our rule, please? – Lanyard round neck when on site. Please note – now that the exams have concluded on Friday June 21 we'll start turning away sixth form students who have forgotten their lanyard and ID. (There's a procedure for lost lanyards involving emailing Mr Bell which students understand – we'll remind them of this.)

Mobile phones and headphones - we start confiscating these on Wednesday 26 June

We expect that all mobile phones are placed in bags when a sixth former enters site – and all headphones must similarly be removed and stowed out of sight, whether 'earmuff' style or 'earpod' style. They can be used in most sixth form areas – in the Sixth Form Canteen or the

picnic area outside, in the Silent Study Area – but if they're seen in the yard or on the corridor, they will be confiscated – without argument, please. This is because the school doesn't permit younger students to use mobile phones on site at all, and sixth formers must set an example about this when in public areas. Would you mind reminding your young person about this please? – **Phones in bags when not in Sixth Form areas.** Any confiscated phones will be taken to the Sixth Form office for collection at the end of a student's day – and we'll contact the parents of repeat offenders to arrange collection.

Would you be willing to assist us in reinforcing these expectations, please? We'll go over them in Assembly next week, but it's best if young people hear this kind of thing from a range of adults.

We'll be in touch shortly about Progression Week arrangements, then about how best to use the summer to really be prepared for the final year at school.

As always, many thanks for your expertise and leadership here. We are obliged!

Yours sincerely,

In Bridgham
Jon Bradshaw

Assistant Headteacher: Head of Sixth Form

Thomas Tallis School