



St Robert of Newminster Catholic School and Sixth Form College



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Head Teacher: Mr. D. Juric

Chair of Governors: Mr. G. Moorhouse

9th February 2018

Pastoral Update

Dear Parent / Carer

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the continued support you provide to the Pastoral team.

NCS Award

- The school received the National Citizenship Award for the second year in a row because we have the most volunteers out of every secondary school in Sunderland who take part in the summer NCS project. This is a very worthwhile project and an excellent experience for Year 11 pupils when they have completed their GCSE examinations. The NCS team have been into school to sign up children and if your child has not done so please encourage them to give it a go or contact Miss Fowler for more information.

Attendance

- The data for the first term of this academic year shows an improvement in overall school attendance. We have moved from **94.38%** in term 1 2016/17 to **95.33%** for the same period of this year.
- This has been achieved because parents and carers have supported their child and the school in our drive to improve overall attendance to enable all children to make the progress they should from years 7 -11.
- There have been a number of students affected by the flu bug this half term so we really need everybody in every day following the holiday to ensure we maintain the high standards set in term 1.
- If your child is absent from school you must contact the attendance team by telephone, not text, by 9.00am on the first day of absence and then every day they are off school. A note explaining absence is then also required on their return to school and should be given to their tutor.

Appointments

- Appointments made during the school day should be made **at least 24 hours** before, so that school procedure can be followed correctly. Parents and carers should inform school by writing a note in their child's planner which the child then shows to their Head of House who will then authorise a pink slip so they can attend the appointment.
- Children are not allowed to leave the premises without a pink slip and parents and carers should always come into the main reception to pick their child up to take them to their appointment.



Transport

- Can parents and carers who drop and pick up their children by car, not to park in the drop off bays at the front of the school as this causes unnecessary congestion.
- The Scholars buses have had difficulty getting in and out of school in recent weeks because a number of parents and carers are parking on the slip road which leads to the student entrance. I understand that parking around the school is very limited but if this area could be avoided it would be much appreciated.

Uniform

- As usual since Christmas many visitors have commented on how well turned out the students are and I am very grateful to all parents and carers for your continued support with this. Unfortunately, this half term we have had some students wearing too much make-up, fake-tan or jewellery or returning to school with an extreme hairstyle. I would be grateful if everyone can ensure that all students, without exception, adhere to the school's expectations in this area. A full list of uniform and expectations is in your child's planner on pages 6 and 7 and can be viewed on the school website.

Once again thank you for your support, especially with regards to attendance, and I wish you all an enjoyable half-term break.

Kind regards,

Mr McHale

Senior Assistant Headteacher: Pastoral

