



SBE/NJE/STH/SSC

10 July 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

As the academic year draws to a close, we are filled with pride for our students and their many achievements. We want to extend a heartfelt thank you to parents and carers for your tremendous support over the year. It is an honour to be part of such a positive and caring community. We believe the Lord has richly blessed us all here at St Catherine's College, as recognised in our recent Church School Inspection: *"pupils and adults thrive in this caring community that celebrates love at its core"*.

We have a few key pieces of information to share with you about the end of term and the first few days in September.

### Arrangements for the last day of term

On Friday 19 July, school will close at 1:30pm for all students. We fully understand that this may not be convenient for some. If you would like your child to remain in school until 3:05pm, for whatever reason, please be assured that the school will remain open as usual and that we will be happy to accommodate them. If you would like your child to remain in school, please let us know by completing [this form](#).

Arrangements for the last day are as follows:

Timing	Session
Tutor - Lesson 2	As per normal
11:10 am-11:40 am	Extended break time
11:45 am – 12:30 pm	Period 3
12:30 pm – 1:30pm	Period 4
1:30 pm	Dismissal from school

Students will be able to collect their lunch during the extended breaktime. There will be a reduced menu on this day.

### Arrangements for the first days back

We will be having a staggered start to next term, which will give our new year 7s time to further familiarise themselves with the school. This will also provide a focused start for our new year 11.

The plan for our return to school is as follows:

Date	Activity	Time
Monday 2 September	Staff INSET day	All day
Tuesday 3 September	Years 7 and 11 come into school	<b>Year 7:</b> 8:35am to 3:00pm <b>Year 11:</b> 8:35am to 4:00pm
Wednesday 4 September	All year groups in school	<b>Year 7:</b> 8:35am to 3:00pm <b>Years 8 to 10:</b> 8:35am to 3:05pm <b>Year 11:</b> 8:35am to 4:00pm

## School uniform

We ask that all students return to school in full school uniform. At St Catherines College we believe that school uniform plays a vital role in fostering a positive learning environment and creating a sense of unity amongst our students. Uniforms eliminate the distractions of fashion trends and socioeconomic differences, allowing students to focus on their studies and personal growth. We believe uniforms promote equality, discipline and a sense of belonging within our school community.

One element of the uniform policy that we would like to emphasise is the requirement to wear non-branded shoes. It is important to share our rationale behind this decision. Non-branded shoes ensure that our students are not judged or evaluated based on the type or cost of their footwear. By removing brand labels, we create a level playing field where every student can be appreciated for their character, talents, and contributions rather than their possessions. In addition, we understand that students may use the holiday period to apply false nails, eyelashes and extra piercings. We would be very grateful if these could be removed before the first day of school. Please [click here for more detailed guidance](#) on uniform.

Our uniform suppliers, Price and Buckland, are offering free returns on all school uniform orders. To place your order, please click [here](#). Uniform orders should be made by 2 August to ensure arrival before September. If you have any worries or concerns over school uniform, please contact [admin@stcatherines.college](mailto:admin@stcatherines.college) so that we can help you before the start of next term.

We understand that some families may be struggling in the current climate, and we are determined that no child should be disadvantaged due to financial constraints. In light of this, if you feel that you may struggle financially with paying for school uniform, please contact [sbond@stcatherines.college](mailto:sbond@stcatherines.college).

If you have any uniform that you no longer require and would like to donate, we would be very grateful, as this supports other families within our community. Please could any uniform donations be dropped at reception.

We really hope that you and your loved ones have a peaceful summer, and we look forward to welcoming our students back in September. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Yours faithfully



Solomon Berhane  
Headteacher



Sophie Thomas  
Head of School



Nigel Jewell  
Deputy Headteacher

Romans 15:13 "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing"