



AC/AG

18th July 2019

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Dear Parents/Guardians and Carers,

It is that time of year again to wish you and your families all the very best for a lovely summer vacation period; may the sun continue to shine! We have also a few reminders and other information to share with you too.

Holiday Dates for 2019-2020

Term Dates

The last day of this summer term is **Friday, 19th July 2019**; school will finish at the end of the day as normal.

Autumn Term

Monday 2nd September INSET DAY – school closed to students

Tuesday 3rd September – Thursday 24th October 2019

Autumn Half Term

Friday 25th October 2019 INSET DAY – school closed to students

Monday 28th October – Friday 1st November 2019 HALF TERM

Students return Monday, 4th November 2019

CHRISTMAS 2019

Friday, 20th December 2019 LAST DAY OF TERM

Monday, 22nd December – Friday 3rd January 2020 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

Monday 6th January 2020 INSET DAY – school closed to students

Students return Tuesday, 7th January 2020

Spring Half Term

Monday 17th February – Friday 21st February 2020 HALF TERM

Students return Monday 24th February 2020

Easter

Friday, 3rd April 2020 INSET DAY – school closed to students

Monday 6th April – Friday 17th April 2020 EASTER HOLIDAYS

Students return Monday 20th April 2020

Summer Half Term

Monday 25th May – Friday 29st May 2020 HALF TERM

Students return Monday, 1st June 2020

Summer

School Closes Friday 17th July 2020 for students

School Closed Monday 20th July 2020 INSET DAY disaggregated for staff

Bank Holidays: 25th/26th December 2019, 1st January 2020, 10th & 13th April 2020, 8th (Friday) & 25TH May 2020 and 31st August 2020

Some things are changing at Compass

COMPASS UNIFORM

As Compass moves forward and is progressing in all areas, we have taken the time to look at what developments need to be put in place to strengthen the school further next academic year. After canvassing parents and students, we have decided to phase in a school uniform from September. This will only be a basic uniform and it will have a degree of choice attached to it. To save students the hassle of deciding what to put on in the mornings (and parents the expense of branded sportswear) we are encouraging parents to purchase school polo shirts. These are shirts that are made of good quality fabric and will be available to purchase from *Dorset Embroidery Printwear (DEP), Lynch Lane, Weymouth* from the summer holidays. These will be available in either dark grey, navy or teal. Students who attend Hair & Beauty will already be used to wearing these. PE staff currently wear them as uniform and GCSE PE students will also be wearing these from September. Details will be sent out to parents/ guardians in due course.

We have sourced a 1/4 zip outer top to go over the top of the polo shirts. Students may continue to wear appropriate bottoms and shoes for the day. We recognise most students come prepared for practical activities on the day and we wouldn't want this to change due to our lack of PE changing facilities.

In order to purchase these items, you will need to contact the supplier directly.

*Embroidery Printwear (DEP), Lynch Lane, Weymouth DT4 9DN
01305 750292
sales@dorsetprintwear.co.uk*

The K403 polo's shirts are priced at £11.00 +VAT
The Aptus ¼ zip jacket price is £23.50 each for sizes up to 34-36inch chest.
For sizes 38-40 and above they will be £24.00+VAT each.
These prices will include the printing of the logo.

A change to policy- Leggings/Jeggings/slashed jeans are not to be worn in school at anytime. A reminder too that tops worn to school should completely cover shoulders and midriff too.

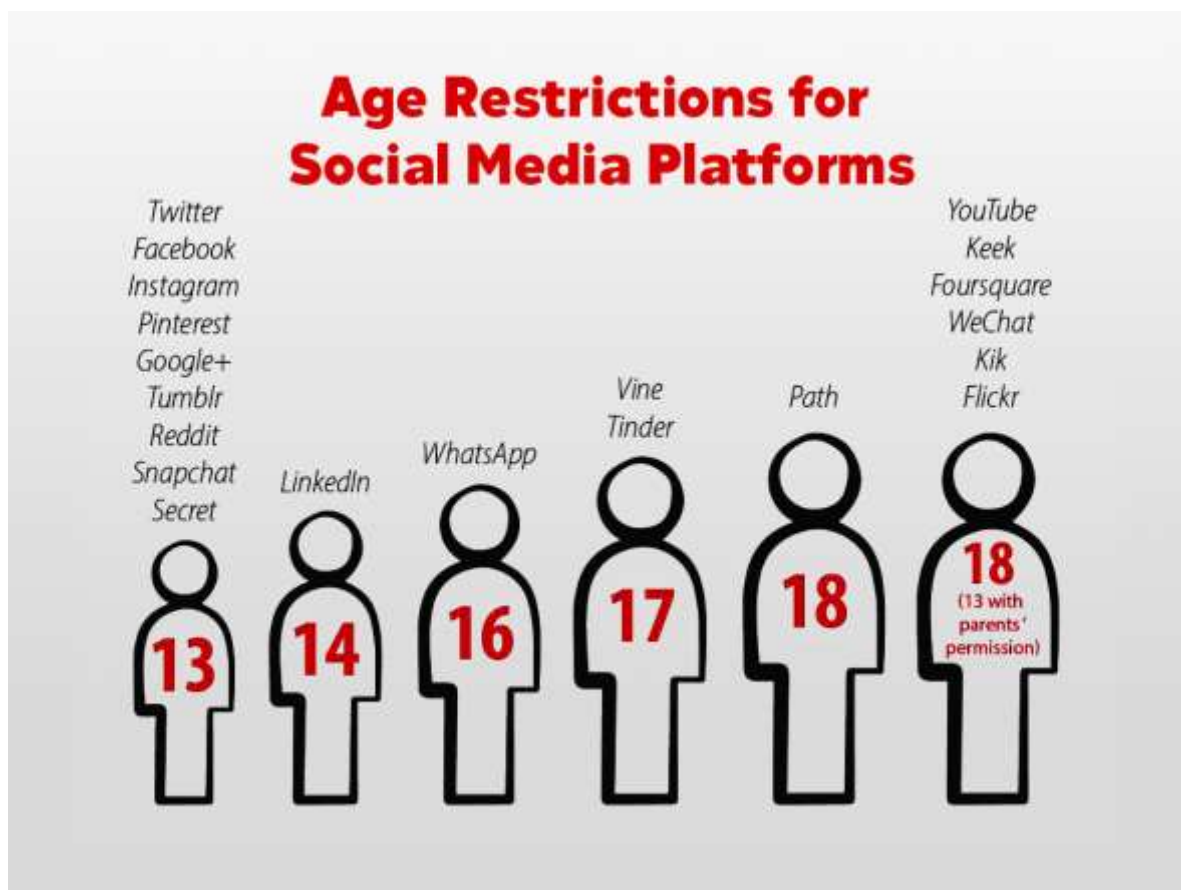
CONDUCT

There are a few areas of conduct across the school that cause concern and we need to work on with parents and carers continued support.

- They fall into the categories of behaviour stemming from consumption of energy drinks, including Lucozade and other sports related isotonic concoctions and highly sugary foods
- Foul and offensive language including that of a sexualised nature
- Issues that stem from students accessing social media sites for cyber bullying and other activities that could bring them and this school into disrepute. Some of their activities may also put themselves and others at risk of harm

The handing in of mobile phones at the beginning of the school day has worked really well and students are much more focussed in class because they are distracted less. We intend to continue with this policy next year.

We have again included at quick reference for the age restrictions that apply to social media sites below. Please can we urge you to apply age restrictions and monitor the content of your child's social medial use, it may prevent issues of a more serious nature from developing in the first place.



Of equal concern is the fact that a very small minority of students have caused wilful damage to the fabric of the centre; these are often acts of criminal damage and afterwards the choices are; to pursue with the police or to attempt to recover the costs of repair through parents and carers and attempt some restorative work.

PARENT MAIL

You will probably have noticed that we have sent a link through to you for Parent Mail this can be held as an app on your mobile phone or can be accessed through the internet. All newsletters, reports, exam schedules will be sent out to you through this method in the future. If you are NOT able to access Parent mail for any reason please contact the school office 01305 206530 or email office@compass.dorset.sch.uk with your email details. Hopefully you will have already accessed our website www.compass.dorset.sch.uk, here you will find lots of information about Compass Learning Centre; newsletters, exam schedule, current news, etc.

PARENT GOVERNOR

We are looking to recruit a parent governor at Compass . This is an important role where you work helps to direct and account for the performance of the school. If you are interested in supporting the school and the young people of Weymouth & Portland please email: office@compass.dorset.sch.uk or telephone 01305 206530 during term time

SCHOOL GATES

The second big development in preparation for September 2019, has been the school site. You may be aware of the building works that have happened this year in order for us to be able to offer a more bespoke curriculum from September, making the site safer and looking much better than previously. Part of this has been to secure the site with new fences, CCTV and lockable gates. These are very much in place to keep unwanted visitors out, as much as keeping young people safe in school. As a result of this we have decided that the school gates will be locked during the school day, meaning that once students are in school, they will stay in for the day. Gates will be locked at 9am. Any students arriving late will need to press the intercom to be let in and will be signed in late. Students will no longer be able to go offsite at break or lunch, meaning that all students will need to bring a packed lunch and plenty of non-carbonated drink for the day. Students with Free school meals will be catered for onsite. As well as keeping students safe in the community, it also means that the temptations for meeting other students, being late, buying inappropriate items from the shop that are not conducive for students learning are taken away. Staff will continue to check students in the morning and the same rules will still apply to phones and other banned items.

As a result of these changes, the aim is to have a student body in the right frame to learn, improved attainment and progress, improved attendance and punctuality and above all, a safe environment to learn in.

For those parents whom are aware that their child has a serious addiction to nicotine, it may be a good opportunity to seek smoking cessation help over the course of the summer break to assist your child manage their cravings from September; as with all Dorset Council properties, Compass is a non-smoking site. As a quick reminder, the law of the land states that: you must be over 18 to buy cigarettes in the UK. If you're under 16 the police have the right to confiscate your cigarettes. Also' it's illegal:

- for shops to sell you cigarettes if you are underage (18)
- for an adult to buy you cigarettes if you are under 18
- to smoke in a car with a child.

Some sources of help could include:

- NHS Livewell has a [guide to quitting smoking](#) for young people
- Talk to Frank offers friendly, confidential [advice on drugs](#)
- The Mix provides [real life stories](#) and advice about quitting smoking.
- ASH (Action on Smoking and Health) for a [list of smoking helplines in the UK](#), including helplines in other languages

Visitors to the school will need to park in the sat the bottom of the site and make their way towards the pedestrian gate where there is an intercom system linked with the office.

STAFF LEAVERS 2019

Tom Blair – planned University course to take up teaching.

Nigel Gates - TA will be solely supporting at MACE (greenwood joinery)

Martin Hall - relocated out of the area.

Lucy Travell – Planned schools led teacher training.

Fiona Wright - a new 1-1 support post

STARTERS 2019-2020: A warm 'welcome to Compass' to:

Alison Bolsover – Humanities Teacher

Robert Townley – KS3 Teacher

James Symes – Senior Teaching Assistant

Jordan Griffin - 1:1 Teaching Assistant

Toni Curlew - Class Teaching Assistant

Victoria Andrews - Class Teaching Assistant

And Finally

On behalf of all the staff and Governors at Compass we wish you a very happy and safe summer break.

Alison Glazier

Alison Glazier

Headteacher

SUBJECT SPOTLIGHT:

ART GCSE COMPLETE



The Art GCSE came to a beautiful end, with the art moderator being shown the incredible work that all three students had created during their time here. The exam pieces were based around the theme 'messages', and included a 10 hour exam to complete the final piece- these included a piece on male mental health, the cruelty of animal circuses and consent. The coursework was also breath-taking, with numerous abstract paintings, fluid art, and protest art. The students should be very proud of all

their hard work, creativity and determination over this final year. We as school, and an Art Department are thrilled of what they have produced.

BOOKS FOR AFRICA



During an end of year tidy up we were left with a hundred or more redundant books. Old text books that were no longer useful or relevant, and lots of children's story books. They were destined for recycling or landfill as local charity shops will not accept them. After some research, the charity -Books 2 Africa were contacted and we boxed 10 -20kg boxes of books up that will be delivered to schools in Africa. It took hard work to sort through the books and box them all up but it is a good feeling to know that those books will help children in Africa who have so few resources.

CATERING

We have had a busy year with the Catering students; a group of year 11's went out to the Quayside restaurant in Weymouth to learn how to make pizza dough and toppings. While some of the year, 10 and 11 catering students have worked well towards their ASDAN and City & Guilds qualifications. The year 10/11 catering students also gained their "Basic Food Hygiene certificates".



This is a great achievement as the employers recognise the NVQ as an excellent foundation for those students wishing to seek employment in the area we live in as it has many opportunities for the students to find employment in the catering industry.

GEOGRAPHY YR.11

Chesil Coast Geography field trip

The year 11 pupils studying geography had the opportunity to carry out some fieldwork in preparation for their GCSE exams. The group visited various beaches along the coast in order to take random pebble samples and prove the existence of Longshore Drift. The pupils used a variety of interesting methods to ensure that they got good samples, recorded the primary data themselves and pupils interviewed members of the public in the afternoon. All the pupils were superbly behaved throughout the trip and had a really good time in the sunshine on the beautiful Jurassic Coast.



HAIR & BEAUTY



Yr 10 completed an ASDAN qualification in Hair and Beauty, which involved going to Weymouth College.

SAILING



The students have been fantastic at sailing this year and have been a real credit to the school. The instructors are keen to work with the compass students and we are getting some quality work done every week. This year we have had 1 student gain her stage 4, 1 student gained their level 2 and 2 students have gained their level 1. These students will be able to continue next year with the plan to get them as many qualifications as possible to go on their cv for college applications and jobs in the future.

Funding is secure for sailing again next year and i look forward to taking many more to gain the experience and the qualifications.

Mark Fisher

SCIENCE

Year 9 Science Trip to Winchester Science Centre and Planetarium

On Tuesday 25th June the year 9s and one year 10 went to Winchester Science Centre and Planetarium.

We started the visit with a look around the exhibitions, which included a real space suit, a trip inside the human body and creating a tornado.

We then took part in a hands-on Matter workshop where we discussed the three states of matter (solid, liquid and gas) and then had the opportunity to make a fourth state of matter - non-Newtonian fluid. We experimented with making two different types using glue, borax and pink stuff. The materials flow like liquid when still, but if kept moving act more like a solid and can be rolled into a ball.

This was followed by a number of sport science activities – racing 10m from the blocks (competitive Tom, the class teaching assistant, was intent on winning every race), rowing and playing wheelchair basketball.

Lunch was followed by a fantastic planetarium show. During the show we travelled into space to visit the Moon, Venus, Mars and Jupiter before leaving the Milky Way to see how incredibly small we are when put against a backdrop of the rest of the Universe.

Despite one student possibly taking a small snooze in the planetarium, the whole group had an enjoyable day and were an asset to Compass with their enthusiasm and in the way that they behaved. Well done!

Jane, Simon and Tom



Year 11 2019-2020

Weymouth College Taster days

7 of our Year 10 students attended 2 days at Weymouth College for their Taster days.

The students were able to gain experience of what the environment is like at the College, meet new peers and of course, engage in subjects they have an interest in to help them make informed decisions for their transition to Post 16 at the end of Year 11.

All of the students were amazing. They were a credit to themselves, Compass and their parents/guardians. Despite it pushing some of them way out of their comfort zones they all attended as many sessions as they could manage on both days and all seemed to enjoy the experience.

One of our students who is already attending the Motor Cycle course as a Year 10 option is doing so well he was invited by the college to attend a further 2 days to showcase the course to students from other schools. Well done KW

YR 11 LEAVERS

Last week marked the end of their Compass journey for this year's Year 11 students, and what a week it was! Two groups took part in two very different days out, one to the New Forest Water Park, the other to see some dinosaur footprints and enjoy lunch at The John Gregory. The students travelled via minibus, with Craig in the driving seat, and Carolyn, Lucy and Tracey alongside. On arrival, the students were lucky enough to be greeted with sunshine and a near-empty park, and behaved impeccably- even when the lifeguard and emergency boat was called for an injured participant. The trip was rounded off by a visit to McDonalds and a much needed rest! Many thanks to Bobby and Theo for DJ-ing.

