



Compass Learning Centre

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Weymouth

Dorset DT4 0QU

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www.compass.dorset.sch.uk

AC/AG/ 17.12.2019

NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2019

Dear Parents, Carers and Guardians,

It has been a very busy end to the autumn term and I did not want to miss the opportunity to thank you for your continued support and to let you know about some of the changes and developments that have taken place over this term.

SEVERE WEATHER (ICE & SNOW) ARRANGEMENTS

We will, of course, endeavour to keep the school open if at all possible, but severe weather conditions could make it necessary to close the school if it were dangerous or reasonably difficult: For children or sufficient numbers of staff to reach school and provide an adequate educational service For children or staff to journey to, and return from, school safely and without undue delay.

1. CLOSURE INFORMATION

Website

To check whether the school is going to be closed, please visit the school website www.compass.dorset.sch.uk. A warning message will be clearly displayed on the home page. In addition, Dorset County Council also has a website for schools to register with if they are closed due to severe weather. A member of staff will update this as early as possible if we are to close. This should be done by 7.30am. The Dorset for You website www.dorsetforyou/schoolclosure will show schools/colleges that are open and closed.

Radio

Dorset County Council also advise radio stations on the school's behalf, so please listen to our local radio stations for more information if you do not have access to the internet.

Wessex FM (97.2FM) will mention us ONLY if we are closing.

Heart FM (102.3FM) Dorset

Phone

A text will be sent to all parents via mobile phones to inform you of the school closure so it is important that we have your up to date details on file. If conditions permit, a member of staff will endeavour to get into the office but it would be appreciated if you could avoid ringing the school directly except in extreme circumstances, to avoid 'blocking' the line.

2. CLOSURE DURING A WORKING DAY

It is obviously possible for ice/snow conditions to worsen during the day making an emergency closure necessary. At this point, a text via Parentmail and telephone calls will be made to parents, and the Compass website will flash the information.

Taxi companies will be contacted and best arrangements made for departing students requiring such transport.

If closure happens then the emergency instructions parents gave on the students contact form will be followed. This means that the student will be dismissed from the Compass to go home or to a friend's/relatives house or remain at Compass in our Emergency Centre until collection or dismissal is possible. Once it is decided to close the Compass, parents may collect their children at any time. Should any unforeseen emergency occur necessitating Compass closure, arrangements will be

based on the above procedure.

BAD LANGUAGE – parental observation

One of our parents requested we address this in our Newsletter to parents

'I was travelling on the bus and heard the language from my own son and some of his pals, I did pull them up on the language (mainly my own son obviously) and pointed out that it was for the parents of other students to tell their own kids about it. As we know my son's mouth needs washing out at times but just wondered if in the Compass newsletter could highlight this issue'

BEHAVIOUR

The Behaviour for Learning (points system) in school is continuing to work well and enrichment on a Friday afternoon is a real incentive for most students, leading to better behaviour and learning in the classroom. This term, students who have earned at least 5 gold or silver colour statuses and are in the top 12 point earners, will be able to join the end of term trip to Paintballing on the last day of term. A letter home has been sent via your young person to sign and bring back in the hope they make the top 12 places in the centre. The last trip to paintballing was a huge success!

COMPASS BANNED ITEMS

Parents & Carers, please do remind your children both you and them have signed and agreed to the following-

- * Aerosols are not to be sprayed inside the building
- * Phones, Tablets, i-watches/smart watches, other similar brands or any other form of electrical communication to be handed in before school starts and retrieved at the end of the day. Social Media should not be used on the premises
- * Carbonated, fizzy, isotonic, sugary, high energy, caffeine or stimulant drinks are not to be brought into centre at any time and ideally should not be consumed before and never during the school day.
- * Electrical items, including speakers and chargers- should be handed in on the way into school and items will not be charged in the centre.
- * Compass is a no-smoking site and no smoking materials are to be seen on site. Compass site includes the bottom of the drive. If you smoke and have permission to leave site you must leave before getting smoking materials out.
- ** * Food should not be eaten outside of break and lunch times.
- * Drugs and alcohol should never be brought into the Compass (For prescribed medication - see the policy)
- * Other items as defined by the law and are restricted by age, are also banned from site. SEE IT, HEAR IT.....YOU WILL LOSE IT!!!
- ** Please note: we do not ever condone smoking. We do offer cessation techniques and advice on request from two trained colleagues.

This term we have had a focus on items entering the school building to see what impact they have on student's behaviour and learning. Mobile phones, lighters and deodorants have been items that have led to students making poor choices, leading to 'bad things' happening. I am very pleased to report that since introducing a new system where by the deputy head and other staff are meeting and greeting the students to collect in such items, behaviour and engagement in lessons have been much better as there are less distractions to manage for students and staff alike.

CONDUCT

Compass Learning Centre is a sanctuary to most students and a second chance for others. On the whole, behavior is positive and safe and most students respond very well to reminders about expectations of conduct especially considering that we cater for students with a wide variety of learning and behavioral needs. It does sadden me though, that we currently have a small number of students who, seem to feel it is okay to verbally or physically abuse adults in this centre. Those adults are the same adults that work tirelessly with them to make the most of their second chance in

education. Staff who work at Compass do make a positive choice to work here because they want to support the students who most need it and to help them achieve in education and life after school, often at a point when other schools may have deemed they are unable to, due to the student's record of poor behaviour choices. In a mainstream setting if students were verbally or physically abusing staff, they would be excluded for such behaviour and then often "referred" to Compass for intervention. That said, the staff here do not come to work to be verbally or physically abused and nor should they be.

I would like to remind you that if any student or parent/carer wishes to make a genuine complaint about a member of staff here, then I am happy to meet formally and record that meeting where the issues will be fully investigated. The process is explained in our Complaints policy, viewed on the website or is available from school on request.

Compass staff also have a right to be safe and secure in the workplace, as do all of our students. A very small minority of students though are deliberately rude and uncooperative, and display behaviour which breach our Health & Safety Guidelines by tampering with fire doors, fire exits and the alarm system. A small number undertake systematic damage to the fabric of the building.

Those students who are positively identified causing damage to the building or tampering with health & safety equipment will have "bills" sent home to recoup a part of the cost that Compass pays out each time this happens. Payment will be pursued in all cases and in some cases criminal proceedings will also be instigated. E.g. A student deliberately smashed a school window recently, the cost of the repair was £200.00. Students will also be expected to help with 'making good' any damage they cause. In the meantime I will not tolerate members of the Compass staff team, who are, after all, trying to help students achieve the key skills needed to get the most out of life, being verbally or physically abused by students. Any abuse will result in the following actions.

Stage 1

A warning given to the student and a reminder of the complaints process if they feel that they have a genuine grievance, parents informed.

Stage 2 (repeat offenders)

A formal meeting with myself to discuss the issues and comments. A formal warning issued to the student and possible further intervention from the police. (Just to remind you, it is a crime to verbally or physically abuse someone and if it were done outside of school, the police would be involved and sanctions put in place). Parents/ carers will be expected to attend a meeting to discuss the comments.

Stage 3

For persistent offenders it could mean that Compass will cease to provide an education for these students in the future. This means a different education provider would need to be sourced. I hope you feel able to support us in this important matter and help to educate our students how to communicate with staff and other adults appropriately as they will need to be able to do throughout their lives.

PARENTS EVENING KS4- Thursday, 6th February 2020 3.30- 6.00

PARENTS EVENING KS3- Thursday 5th March 2020 3.30 – 6.00

Complete form on the back of this newsletter or email office@compass.dorset.sch.uk or telephone. 01305 206530

PREVENT DUTY

This is a well-publicised safeguarding responsibility placed on schools and other agencies around counter terrorism and extremism and the promotion of British Values. The British Values we need to promote expressed as:

Democracy

The rule of law

Individual liberty

Mutual respect

Tolerance of different faiths and beliefs

We are asked to remind parents that people who are considered to be vulnerable are often targeted by extremists who then begin the radicalisation process and that very often the process occurs online. We would always recommend monitoring your child's internet usage and to report any concerns that you may have. If you do need further advice should you find anything of concern please feel free to have a discussion with our Safeguarding Team, Kerry and Becky.

There is a wealth of information about Prevent Duty available and some useful websites are listed below. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/protecting-children-from-radicalisation-the-prevent-duty> explains the duty is placed on all people working with young people.

<https://www.gov.uk/report-terrorism> is the UK Safer Internet centre that contains a wealth of information and advice on how to protect individuals from accessing inappropriate content or contact from those who seek to do them harm and a similar service from

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/online-radicalisation-andextremism>

SEND

Parents of students with Special Educational Needs – have your say – online input

The inspections by Ofsted and CQC of local areas' special educational needs and disability provision have begun.

Special Needs Jungle is a website specifically for parents so you have express you views on your/your childs experience of SEN provision, this site is reviewed by Ofsted

<https://specialneedsjungle.com/send-inspections-bringing-accountability-views-needed/>

SCHOOL DAY

Students are expected to arrive at 08.45 for morning registration. Arriving after this time will result in a 'Late' mark:

8.45 - 9.00 am Morning Registration

9.00 - 9.50 am Lesson 1

9.50 - 10.40am Lesson 2

10.40 - 11.00am Morning Break

11.00 - 11.50 am Lesson 3

11.50 - 12.40pm Lesson 4

12.40 - 13.10pm Lunch

13.10 - 14.00 Lesson 5

14.00 - 14.50 Lesson 6

STAFF TEAM 2019 - 2020

Is shown here as we start this year; (new colleagues are shown in blue type)

Alison	Headteacher	Mark	Deputy Headteacher
Becky	Ass Head & SENCO	Emma	Maths
Paul	PE/Geog	Emily/Jane	Science
Craig	KS3 Teacher	Simon	English
Jan	Catering	Robert	KS3
Lynne	Hair/Beauty	Dom	Art
Stuart	Engagement Team	Lorraine	NQT English/ Lifeskills
Sue	Engagement Team	Tracey	Engagement Team
Lynne	Senior TA – Asdan	Kyle	HLTA
Paula	Teaching Assistant	Jamie	Senior TA - Art
Lauren	Teaching Assistant	Carolyn	Teaching Assistant/Exam
Vicky	Teaching Assistant	Nigel	Teaching Assistant
Louise	Teaching Assistant	Milena	Teaching Assistant
Toni	Teaching Assistant	Jordan	Teaching Assistant
Jodie	Attendance Officer	Helen	Finance Officer/Exams
Kerry - Business Manager	Safeguarding/DSL	Angie	Data/HR/Governors

On behalf of our staff and governors, would like to wish you and your families a safe, peaceful Christmas and Happy New Year 2020

Yours sincerely,

Alison Glazier

Alison Glazier

HEADTEACHER



PARENTS OF YEAR 7, 8 & 9

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Years 7, 8 & 9 Parents Evening Thursday, 5th March 2020

We would like to invite you to our annual parents evening for Years 7,8 & 9 you will be able to meet up with teachers and student mentors, you will also have an opportunity to have a look around the Compass and see some of the work we do.

It is very important that you attend this parents evening, we will be as flexible as possible to accommodate your needs.

We will be open from 15.30 pm until 18.00.

There will be free refreshments, which will be made by our students on the NVQ Catering Course.

Please indicate the time you will come to the centre on the enclosed reply slip, or telephone the office 01305 206530 or email office@compass.dorset.sch.uk.

We look forward to seeing you on Thursday,5th March 2020 and I would like to thank you for your continuing co-operation.

Yours sincerely,

Alison Glazier
Alison Glazier
Headteacher



RETURN SLIP

Years 7, 8 & 9 Parents' Evening - Thursday, 5th March 2020

I will/will not be attending the open evening on Thursday, 5th March 2020
(Please delete as appropriate).

I will be attending at (please circle the time you intend to visit the centre)

3.30-4.30 4.30-5.15 5.15-6.00

Signed Date

PARENTS OF YEARS 10 & 11

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Years 10 & 11 Parents Evening Thursday, 6th February 2020

We would like to invite you to our annual parents evening for Years 10 & 11 you will be able to meet up with teachers and student mentors, you will also have an opportunity to have a look around the Compass and see some of the work we do.

It is very important that you attend this parents evening, we will be as flexible as possible to accommodate your needs.

We will be open from 15.30 pm until 18.00.

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We look forward to seeing you on Thursday, 6th February 2020 and I would like to thank you for your continuing co-operation.

Yours sincerely,

Alison Glazier
Alison Glazier
Headteacher



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(Please delete as appropriate).

I will be attending at (please circle the time you intend to visit the centre)

3.30-4.30 4.30-5.15 5.15-6.00

Signed Date

DECEMBER 2019	
Thursday 19th	Christmas lunch for staff and students

Friday 20th	LAST DAY OF TERM	School closes 14.50
Monday 23rd– Friday 3rd Jan	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS	School closed for staff & students
JANUARY 2020		
Monday 6th	INSET DAY	School closed for students
Tuesday 7 th	SCHOOL OPEN	Students return to school
FEBRUARY 2020		
Thursday 6th	PARENTS EVENING	Parents Evening KS3
Friday 14 th	LAST DAY OF ½ TERM	School closes at 14.50
Monday 17 th – Friday 21st	SPRING HALF TERM	School closed for students
Monday 24 th	SCHOOL OPEN	Students return to school
MARCH 2020		
Friday 3rd April	LAST DAY OF TERM	School closes 14.50
Mon 6 th April – Fri 17 th April	EASTER HOLIDAYS	School closed to staff & students
APRIL 2020		
Monday 20th	SCHOOL OPEN	Staff & Students return to school
MAY 2020		
Friday 8 th	BANK HOLIDAY	School closed for staff & students
Tuesday 12 th May	EXAM SEASON	KS4 EXAM PERIOD
Friday 24 th	LAST DAY OF TERM	School closes 14.50
Monday 25 th – Friday 29 th May	SPRING HALF TERM	School closed for staff & students
JUNE 2020		
Monday 3rd	SCHOOL OPENS	Staff & Students return to school
JULY 2020		
Friday 17th	SUMMER HOLIDAYS	School closes 14.50
Monday 20 th & 21st	INSET	Disaggregated INSET school closed
AUGUST 2020		
GCSE RESULTS DAY Thursday 20 th August 2020		
...		