

#TeamMoorside Parent Update 03.05.24

Dear Parent/Carer,

In the update last week, I wrote to you about the next steps of embedding 'The Moorside Way', with a focus on 'We wear our uniforms correctly'.

We know that a school uniform is a significant part of life at school as it plays an important role in promoting a sense of pride, self-confidence, a safe environment, and a feeling of belonging within the school. All these factors positively contribute to students' overall wellbeing.

Research has shown that:

- When all students are wearing the same outfit, classrooms are more disciplined, with lower noise levels and significantly better 'listening' from students.
- By wearing uniforms, students do not waste time planning their outfits to wear to school and by wearing a standard school uniform, students are focused on their education and not on their attire.
- Students who wear a school uniform do not have to feel insecure about their appearance and social status. Because all students are wearing the same clothes, there's no judgement.



From Tuesday 7th May, senior staff and the pastoral team will be at the student entrance greeting students positively and checking standards of appearance/uniform each morning from 8am. These checks will support students in ensuring their uniform and appearance as they enter school are perfect.



The checks will give students the opportunity to correct anything before they come into the building, so conversation in the school building can be about learning and lessons and not negative conversations about standards of appearance. During Standards Time, form tutors will be checking equipment, planners, and knowledge organisers to ensure all students are ready for learning.

If students do not have the correct uniform, they will be offered the opportunity to use uniform purchased by school. If they are unable to correct their appearance e.g. extreme eye lashes/nails or we do not have shoes that will fit them, students will be given three days to correct it and parents/carers will be informed via ClassCharts.

Why are we doing this... because we care, because stake holder voice including staff, students, carers, and parents, states that one area that disappoints them is the standard of uniform. We have some wonderful students at Moorside High School, but unfortunately the choices they make around their appearance does not reflect the students they are. We want all students to 'Dress Smart. Think Smart'. We want to encourage students to take a pride in their appearance and represent Moorside looking like they are proud to be 'Team Moorside', but ultimately, we want to prepare students for life after school.

As always, if you have any concerns or thoughts you would like to share with me, please do not hesitate to contact me via MHSinfo@consilium-at.com

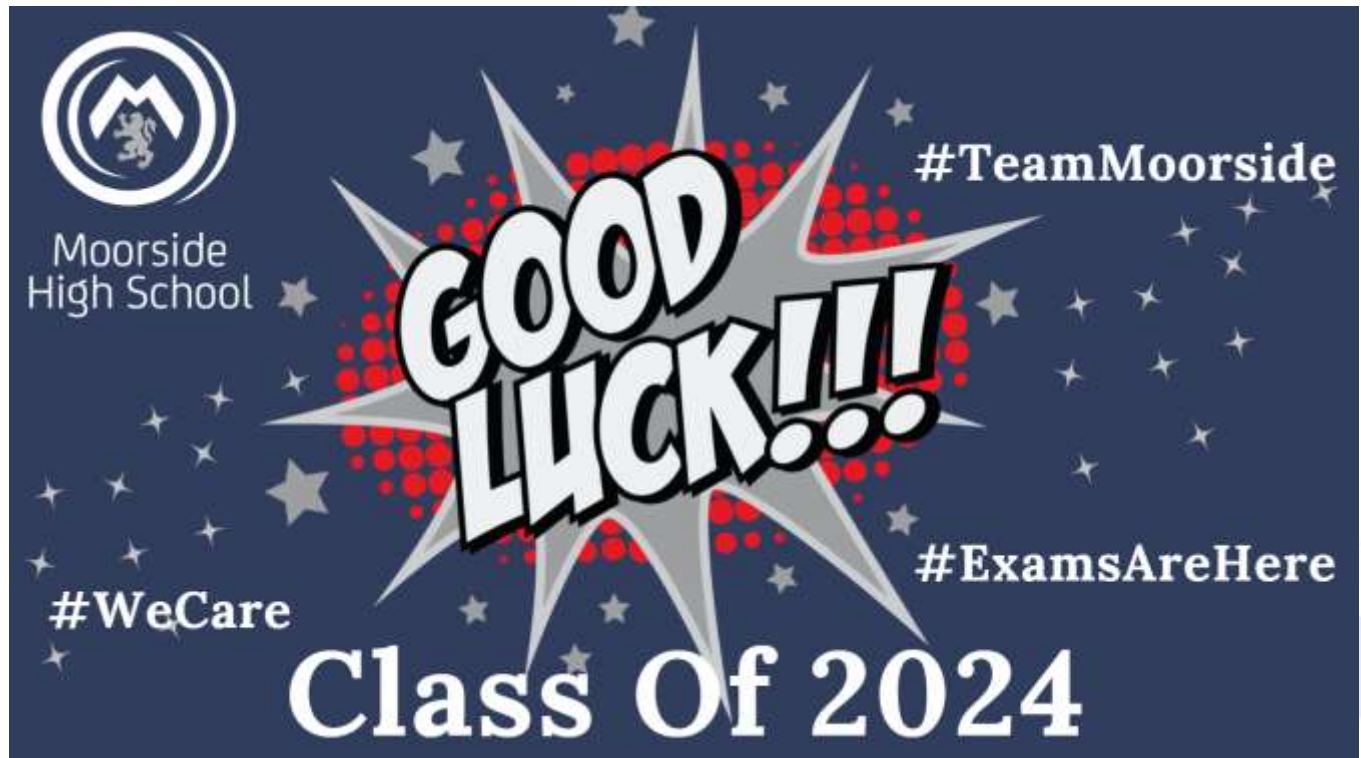
Thank you for your continued support. Enjoy the Bank Holiday weekend, school reopens on Tuesday 7th May, 08:25.

Mrs Ryles-Dean
Headteacher



Year 11 External Exams

The formal external GCSE examinations start on Tuesday 7th May. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our Year 11 parents and carers for their support in the run up to these exams. The students have worked incredibly hard, and we are confident that they will continue to do so throughout the duration of the exams. All Year 11 students are expected to be in school and attending all lessons. Please click [here](#) to access a letter detailing the exam arrangements and click [here](#) to access a letter from Miss Aitken around the leavers hoodies and events.



Move in May

This week we have launched the 'Move in May' challenge. All the Consilium schools will be joining in with this challenge.

The challenge to staff and students is:

- Could you travel the round trip of the Consilium Academies which is 305 miles?
- This can be any form of physical activity, walking, running, cycling or even rowing!
- You can complete this as part of a team or a solo challenge.

Students should send a screenshot of their activity to

MHSwellbeing@consilium-at.com where we will track our progress.

Hopefully a member of Team Moorside will be able to meet this challenge – Good luck everyone.



Year 10 & Year 8 - Violence Reduction Unit Assembly

Following the success of the Violence Reduction Unit workshop this week, we have been given the opportunity to further extend this offer to our Year 8 students. The feedback that we have received from Parents/Carers and the students of our Year 9 cohort who attended the assembly on Monday, has been extremely positive. It is clear that this workshop has raised awareness around the important topics of knife crime, social media, youth violence and positive choices. As circulated last week, more details about the impactful work that Alison Cope has been involved in can be found here <https://www.alisoncope.com/>

Year 8 & Year 10 will receive the session on Wednesday 8th May, 2024

Period Products

PHS are proudly delivering period equality to schools and colleges in England via The Department for Education's (DFE) Period Product scheme to provide free period products to young people who need them. This scheme enables all learners to fully participate in education by making period products available as and when they are needed. Period products are available from main reception and your child's Head of Years office. We can also make up a period package that can be collected from main reception, if this is something that you would be interested in, please email MHSinfo@consilium-at.com

Matilda Production- Thursday 18th and Friday 19th July.

We are extremely excited to see our first big production since Covid coming together. Staff and students are working really hard preparing for the event. The show will be running on Thursday 18th and Friday 19th July. Tickets will be on sale shortly. On the evening, we will be running a raffle to raise funds for the production. If you have any prizes that you would be willing to donate or connections to anyone (local businesses etc) who we could ask that would be great! It is a very family friendly production so it would be lovely to see our families attending. Performances are always such a great opportunity for the school and the community to come together and we are really excited!

Financially motivated sexual extortion.

All schools in the UK have recently been sent information from the National Crime Agency, raising awareness of the recent rise in reporting of financially motivated sexual extortion (a type of online blackmail often known in the media as 'sextortion'). Children and young people worldwide are being targeted.

There has been an increase in reporting of children and young people, particularly teenage males, being forced into paying money or meeting another financial demand after an adult offender has threatened to release nudes or semi-nudes of them. This is financially motivated sexual extortion, sometimes referred to as 'sextortion', and is a form of child sexual abuse.

The National Crime Agency has issued an alert to education settings that provides advice on how to:

- recognise the signs of financially motivated sexual extortion
- raise awareness and support children to seek help
- support victims

Please click [here](#) to access a letter for parents and carers with advice on how to talk to your child about financially motivated sexual extortion, and how to support them if they become a victim. If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact our Designated Safeguarding Lead/Assistant Headteacher Miss Drinkwater.

Year 10 Work Experience

All Year 10 students should now be seeking a work experience placement and registering this on the Connect App. Students have been given a QR code either in R time or via their school email in which to access the app, and add the details of their placements once confirmed. If students are struggling to access the app, they should speak to their Head of Year, Mr Farmer (Careers Adviser) or Mr Mills for support. A reminder that the deadline to confirm the work experience placement details on the app is Monday 3rd June 2024. Thank you for your support with this.

Year 11 Parents

The [Our Pass](#) application portal opened on 1st May and is available to school leavers. Our Pass provides the freedom to travel, learn and work, and make the most of what Greater Manchester has to offer. Our Pass holders benefit from free bus travel and discounted Metrolink travel across GM. They also have access to a wide range of freebies, discounts, events, and experiences through Our Pass Exclusives. Students and their families can **save up to £500 a year** in bus travel costs. Please visit the Our Pass website for further details and to apply. <https://ourpass.co.uk/> If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the Our Pass team: opportunities@ourpass.info

Change to the school day.

Due to the external examinations requiring up to 2 hours in the afternoon, from Tuesday 7th May up until Friday 21st June the lunch/R time period will move earlier in the school day. Year 7, 9 & 11 will have R time between 11:55-12:20, with lunch 12:20-12:55. Years 8 & 10 will have lunch 11:55-12:30 followed by R time 12:30-12:55. Students will then have lessons during period 4 (12:55-13:55) and period 5 (13:55-14:55) following the lunch period.

Flag Football Update

On Wednesday 1st May, our year 9 girls, had a fantastic day of playing fixtures in the second week of the Flag Football Project, students looked exceptional in their new kit, which has been sponsored by the Chicago Bears.

Our first game was against Trinity Manchester, we fought a good fight with some great interceptions from Mia who went on to score a touchdown, the result was Moorside 2 - Trinity 6.

Our students are starting to really understand the game of Flag Football, developing their tactics and knowledge of the rules, each week their confidence is growing, and it has been shown throughout the game. Alexandra made several running plays, to score a touchdown. In our final match of the day, we played against Bolton School and won 12 - 0, both our offence and defence worked extremely hard throughout the game, with great interceptions.



This week our Captain was Mia, Coaches Most Valuable Player was Poppy and the Players Most Valuable Player was Alexandra. A fantastic week for #TeamMoorside. Well done, to all the girls that played.

Key Dates:

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|--------------------------------------|---|
| • Monday 6 th May 2024 | School Closed – May Bank Holiday |
| • Tuesday 7 th May 2024 | Year 11 External Exams |
| • Wednesday 8 th May 2024 | Year 8 and Year 10 Youth Crime Prevention Day |
| • Friday 24 th May 2024 | Year 10 Encounters Art Trip – Salford University. |
| • Friday 24 th May 2024 | School closes for half term. 14:55 |
| • Monday 3 rd June 2024 | School reopens 08:25 |

All term dates for the academic year, 23/24 can be found on the school website or by [clicking here](#)

Moorside Matters Parent Facebook group.

If you would like to join, please head over to our Facebook page by [clicking here](#) or scanning the QR code. As is normal in most Facebook groups, you will be asked a few questions to verify your genuine connection with the school and agree to the group rules before being accepted.

Please note, this Facebook page is not run by the school, all content and discussions are posted by parents.



Silent reminder

SILENT REMINDER - UNIFORM #THE MOORSIDE WAY

Key Uniform reminders

Coats & Hoodies - All outside garments should be removed when you enter the school building and either carried or kept in bags. Students should never be seen with their hoods up when on the school campus unless it is raining.

Shoes - Students should wear a school shoe, trainers are not permitted and are not part of the main school uniform.

Bags - Every student must bring a school bag to school. Bags should be large enough to carry your equipment, planners and knowledge organisers.

Ties and Blazers - The school blazer and tie are the most important part of the school uniform. They should be worn with pride at all times.



SILENT REMINDER - NO MOBILE PHONES



The Rules

If your mobile phone is seen in school (from the minute you arrive on campus until you leave campus at the end of the day), it will be confiscated.

This is a non-negotiable – Remember the policy says **“Switched off and in your bag”**

- Any confiscated phones will be kept safely in the school safe until the end of the day. Refusal to hand over your phone when requested by a member of staff will result in a consequence, this could be reflection (where you will hand your phone over anyway) or a more severe consequence if this is repeated behaviour. If you need to contact home, we can facilitate this with support from the pastoral team or the school reception team.

Why is this a rule?


- Mobile phones in school can be a major distraction, diverting student attention away from the teachers instructions, lesson content and the opportunity to actively participate in classroom discussions
- Numerous studies have shown that students who spend more time on their phones tend to have lower grades compared to those who use them sparingly.
- Mobile phones can have a detrimental effects on our social interactions. Over reliance on the virtual world can hinder the development of crucial communication and socialisation skills that are essential for our personal growth and future careers
- Removing access to mobile phones from the school community supports a proactive stance against cyberbullying, fostering a safe and supportive environment for all students
- Excessive screen time has been linked to issues such as eye strain, sleep disruption, and even mental health problems like anxiety and depression. By limiting the use of mobile phones in school, we are promoting a healthier lifestyle.

Word of the week

WORD OF THE WEEK

ASCERTAIN

(VERB)




ASCERTAIN

DISCOVER | LEARN | REALISE | FIND OUT

To find out or learn something with certainty.

"The detective was trying to ascertain the truth of the crime."



REWARDS PYRAMID
#TEAM MOORSIDE #THE MOORSIDE WAY

THE MOORSIDE WAY
#TEAM MOORSIDE

The Rewards Pyramid includes levels for: Stationery/Book Gift Cards, Break & Lunch Queue Jump Pass, Nando's Gift Cards, Sweet Treats, Doughnut Party, Surprise Reward, and 4 x £50 Gift Vouchers. The Moorside Way poster lists 12 behavioral expectations such as 'Play your part in the positive learning environment' and 'Be respectful to everyone'.

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