



Friday 12th September 2014

Mon	15 th Sept	
Tues	16 th Sept	11+ Real Test
Wed	17 th Sept	Year 11 Geography Fieldwork
Thurs	18 th Sept	Year 11 Geography Fieldwork
Fri	19 th Sept	11+ Real Test Year 11 Geography Fieldwork

OPEN EVENINGS & OPEN DAY

We will be holding our Open Evenings on Wednesday 24th & Thursday 25th September from 6.00 pm until 8.00 pm. Mr Rodaway will speak at 6.15 pm and 7.15 pm. We have also planned an Open Day on Thursday from 10.00am – 12.00 noon and 2.00 pm – 3.15 pm.

Could we please remind parents that Wednesday 24th is a staff development day and therefore students are not in school during the day although some students have volunteered to assist on the open evenings and will be expected to arrive at school for 5.30 pm (if a tour guide) and 5.45 pm (if assisting in subject areas).

Assisting with Open Evenings

We are still looking for volunteers and therefore if your son or daughter would like to assist on our open evenings, either as a guide or helping in subject areas, please ask them to see their form tutor for a permission letter.

FOR THE ATTENTION OF YEAR 7 STUDENTS

In order to provide accurate target information for all Year 7 students, each student will sit an on-line CAT (Cognitive Abilities Test) test. Each form group will have 3 periods to complete their tasks which can be analysed instantly and provide us with quicker and more reliable data.

The tests are due to take place next week and the timings are as follows:

Monday periods 1, 2, 3

H13 – 7BW

H23 – 7GY

Wednesday periods 1, 2, 3

H13 – 7HS

H23 – 7HT

Tuesday periods 1, 2, 3

H13 – 7BX

H23 – 7GZ

Students and parents should not worry about this test and are asked just to do their best on the day.

PARENTS OF STUDENTS WITH INDIVIDUAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES

Please see the letter (at the end of this newsletter) which is from the Department for Education regarding the changes to provision for pupils with individual needs and disabilities. Please note the deadline for transferring pupils on Individual Education Plans due to their School Action or School Action Plus status is April 2015. Student Support Plans have replaced IEPs and are in place for pupils in years 8-11 and are with staff. A preliminary list of medical information and information regarding individual needs has been sent to all staff regarding pupils in years 7 and 12 with full student support plans to follow shortly. If you require further information please contact me on the school number.

Mrs Storey, Director of Student Services/SENCO



STUDENTS UNDERGOING TREATMENT

We currently have some students who are undergoing long term aggressive medical treatment and therefore vulnerable to infections. We would ask that parents consider carefully before sending their child into school when they are ill.

FUNDRAISING FOR LEUKAEMIA AND LYMPHOMA RESEARCH

Two of our teachers, Mrs Gilbert and Mrs Boyle, are both participating in the Nantwich Triathlon on Sunday to raise funds for Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research. If anyone would like to sponsor them please visit www.justgiving.com/clare-gilbert-nicci-boyle.

YEAR 7 RUGBY TRIALS & PRACTICE – Saturday 13th September

This will take place at Glasspool fields from 9.00am until 10.00am. All welcome. Students will need rugby shirt, shorts, socks and boots. A gumshield is recommended.

We will need two teams and play 13 Saturday fixtures from now until Easter. If your son is interested in playing, please check the fixtures (available on the school website imminently) for any clashes with other sporting and family commitments.

CAREER SEMINAR – 'A Career in Medicine, the Good, the Bad and the Ugly'

We will be holding a career seminar for students in years 10, 11 and 12. This will take place on Monday 22nd September at 1.30pm in the school hall. The presenter is Mr Matthew Howse and is entitled 'A Career in Medicine, the Good, the Bad and the Ugly'. Any students wishing to attend should register their interest with their form tutor.

FOOTBALL

For the first time this year we have both a 1st and 2nd XI under 18 football team and on Wednesday 10th September the teams travelled to the King's School Chester to play their first games of the season. The 1st XI lost 3-1 having been leading 1-0 at half time with a goal from Jack Davies, and the 2nd XI won 5-0 with goals from Elliot Sutton, Matthew Barlow, John Dufton-Kelly and Dan Allen (2). The attitude and performance of all of the 28 players involved was excellent, exemplified by the two team captains Calum Smith and Matthew Barlow.

TWITTER

We have a new twitter feed for anyone who is interested in theatre at Calday with information about current productions, productions featuring students both past and present and links to articles and opportunities. Please follow us @CGGSDrama

SPANISH YEAR 11 – The booty voucher is back!

Mock exams are fast approaching and the key to success is vocab! vocab! vocab! There are two booty vouchers up for grabs as an incentive for students; one for the highest point score and the other for the biggest % increase in score (vocabexpress.com - all students have individual login usernames and passwords). We will look at scores first week in December. Buena suerte! The Spanish dept

FAMILY & ADULT LEARNING CLASSES

Details for this year's classes have now been posted on the school website. All enrolment and booking is managed through the website. Full details of what is on offer can be found at: www.caldaygrangegrammarschool.co.uk/eveningclasses



CROSS COUNTRY TRAINING

Tuesday - 3:40 to 4:30 at school;

Wednesday TBA depending upon demand

Saturday - 09:30 to 10:30 at Arrowe Park for four weeks, then Royden Park - unless we have races!

Wednesday 15th October - Year 7, 8 and 9 Wirral Schools Trials at Arrowe Park - 4:30 start, arrive at 4:00 at latest

More fixtures to follow (first race begins at 10:00 at each venue)

Saturday 11th Oct - Croxteth park in Liverpool

Saturday 15th November - Wavertree Athletics Centre

Saturday 13th December - Stadt Moers Park

Saturday 10th January - Arrowe Park

CONGESTION & SAFETY

Could we please ask parents to avoid dropping-off their children at the bottom of the school steps, as this causes unnecessary congestion in the car park. Grammar School Lane also becomes congested, especially at the beginning and end of the day with buses arriving and departing. We request that parents do not set down or pick up their children in the proximity of the school and certainly not in the areas with zig-zag road markings. To do so may cause serious traffic congestion and endanger lives.

Sixth Form students with cars are also reminded that they should respect our neighbours and in particular should not park in Bramhall Close or Calday Grange Close. Your co-operation in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

PARENT VIEW

Parent View provides parents with the opportunity to tell Ofsted what they think about their child's school. Parent View asks for your opinion on 12 aspects of your child's school, from the quality of teaching, to dealing with bullying and poor behaviour. By sharing your views you will be assisting the school to improve and you will also be able to see comments from other parents.

Please take the opportunity to visit Parent View at www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk



Department
for Education

Department for Education
Sanctuary Buildings
Great Smith Street
London
SW1P 3BT

0370 000 2288

www.education.gov.uk/help/contactus

1 September 2014

Dear Parents

NEW ARRANGEMENTS FOR SUPPORTING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS (SEN) AND DISABILITIES

The system for supporting children and young people with SEN and Disability is changing. In September, all local councils published a local offer setting out what support is available in your area to all 0-25 children and young people with SEN and disability.

Statements of special educational needs and Learning Difficulty Assessments (LDA) are being replaced with a **single Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan** for children and young people with complex needs. The EHC plan will place much more emphasis on personal goals and will describe the support your child will receive while they are in education or training. Under the new system, which is designed to work better around a family's needs, councils must be able to offer a co-ordinated education health and care plan assessment and issue an EHC plan within 20 weeks where one is needed. Those with an EHC plan also have the legal right to ask for a personal budget, which they will agree with their council.

Councils must also make sure there is a source of independent information, advice and support for parents and children and young people with SEN and disabilities. **Families will also be able to access new Independent Supporters** to help with EHC needs assessments, and transfer from statements to EHC plans. Families must have access to mediation services so disagreements can be resolved locally. Families still have the right to go to the SEND Tribunal to resolve disputes if they want to do so, but must have a certificate from the council to show they have at least considered mediation first.

Support for those without EHC plans

For those with SEN or disabilities who do not need an EHC plan, we are introducing SEN support, which replaces School Action and School Action Plus. Schools and nurseries must work with the child's parents or carers when agreeing what support they will provide and what this support will achieve, drawing in additional resources as needed, setting clear targets for progress, and tracking how it is working. Many schools are doing this through working with children and young people to develop one page profiles which explain what is important to the child or young person, what they want to achieve and how the school will help.

Transferring over to the new system

School pupils and those in the early years on School Action/ School Action Plus should have transferred to SEN support by the end of the spring term 2015.

For those children and young people who already have statements or learning difficulty assessments, the council must have a plan to transfer them over to EHC plans, which has been developed with parents, so that:

- Young people who currently receive support as a result of a Learning Disability Assessment (LDA) who request an EHC plan and need one are issued with one within 20 weeks of an assessment being requested;
- Young people who currently receive support as a result of an LDA who continue in further education or training beyond 1 September 2016 have an EHC plan where one is needed;
- Children and young people with statements are transferred to EHC plans by 1 April 2018 (although some councils might decide to do it faster).

We are phasing in the changes in order to ensure that support is maintained through the transition period and the new system is not overwhelmed. You can find out more information about how this will work in the guidance about transition (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-managing-changes-to-legislation-from-september-2014>).

Keeping current protections

The new law does not change the definition of SEN, and the legal test for when a child or young person requires an EHC plan is the same as that for a statement under the Education Act 1996. So **no child or young person should lose their statement and not have it replaced with an EHC plan simply because the system is changing.** Equally, I expect that **young people who are currently receiving support as a result of a LDA and remain in further education or training during the transition period, who request and need an EHC plan, will be issued with one.** If a council decides to cease a statement and not replace it with an EHC plan or not issue an EHC plan to a young person who receives support as a result of an LDA then dispute resolution arrangements must be in place locally for parents and young people, including mediation and the right to appeal a decision to the SEND Tribunal.

An offer which improves over time

From my own conversations and visits in recent months, I've been hugely impressed with the commitment and enthusiasm local councils and their partners are showing for the changes. They've said the new legislation has revitalised their practice, and enabled them to work much more collaboratively with parents. Parents who have been through the EHC assessment and planning process are saying that it has been a positive experience – one which focuses on their child's strengths rather than their limits. There will inevitably be teething problems, and in the early days and months the new system may not be all that families want and expect. If that is your experience, I can assure you, it will improve over time.

If you have any further questions about the reforms, do read the Parents' Guide we have produced (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-guide-for-parents-and-carers>). It sets out in more detail how the reforms will work and has been developed in partnership with parent representative bodies, such as the National Network of Parent Carer Forums, Contact a Family and Special Needs Jungle. It includes information about where you can go for more information and help. You can also speak to your council's local information, advice and support service - you can find contact information for these here: www.parentpartnership.org.uk/find-your-pps/.

In bringing in these important changes, we've listened in particular to parents, children and young people, to make sure we do what works best for them. As we all move forward together, I will ensure we continue to do so.



EDWARD TIMPSON