



NNO/JBI
3 January 2022

Dear Blaise Families,

I hope that you have all had a lovely holiday and feel refreshed and ready to return to school. As you know we have an inset day today, and all children will return to us tomorrow morning at 8:20am. I wanted to write to you to update you on a number of items at the beginning of 2023.

Over the coming weeks you will notice a change in the language of the school. Following very helpful feedback from parents I have decided that there will be a slight change to the language regarding vision of the school, and rather than talking about all children climbing their own personal mountain to the best universities in the country, we will talk about children climbing their own personal mountain to the very best universities in the country, or careers of their choosing. Ultimately we want the best for all of our students, and we want them to aspire to the very best. Implied in this is that all students who attend Blaise High School will have a choice over the direction of their lives. If they choose to go to University, we will equip them with the grades to go to one of the best universities in the country. If they choose not to go to University we want every child to be able to choose their career path. The word career has been chosen over job because we want all of our children to have a career in which they can grow, develop, progress and experience success, rather than a job that they have to do. The means by which we will support children to realise this vision have not changed. We will continue to focus on high expectations, exemplary behaviour and high quality teaching. The children have done extremely well since September, and we are proud of them every single day. This change is a direct result of parental feedback and I am extremely grateful for this feedback.

I would also like to take this opportunity to ask for the community's continued support in ensuring that students are ready for learning when they arrive at school. We will continue to offer free breakfast for any student who wants it, this service is available from 8am. I would also like to remind everyone that hooded sweatshirts, zippable and otherwise, are not permitted on site. Jackets are permitted, and are in fact, encouraged in the winter. They can be worn on site, must be over the blazer and can't be worn indoors. Chewing gum is not permitted anywhere on site. We want to look after our building, and our site, and chewing gum causes damage to both of these. If children are seen chewing their RfL cards will be signed, the gum will go in the bin, and any additional chewing gum will be confiscated. I thank you for your ongoing support regarding this. Please also ensure that your children are in school as much as possible. The biggest determining factor in how well children do at school is their attendance, it is essential that your children are here every day. Please also note that as per our uniform policy unnatural hair colours, fake nails and lines in the hair or eyebrow are not permitted. Students will not be able to attend lessons if these are in place. We want to see every student in school, every day, however we also want to ensure that the school is safe, as such, if your child has a high temperature, or a fever, or symptoms that correlate with those of Scarlett Fever or Strep A please do keep them at home.

We will write to you in the coming weeks about a number of items, particularly for Year 11 we will write with details of our next raising standards evening, and Year 9 parents will receive information in due course regarding the options process. We look forward to continuing to share student successes with you, and are very much looking forward to the remainder of this academic year. There have been so many incredible achievements from your children since September, be that



work in lessons, manners in their interactions, exemplary behaviour or enjoying the rewards experiences. I love sharing these with you, and look forward to sharing many more with you in 2023.

Please find a video summary of this letter [here](#)

Thank you for your ongoing support.