

Unity College

Towneley Holmes, Burnley, Lancashire BB11 3DF
Tel: 01282 683010 • Fax: 01282 683012
www.unity-college.com • enquiries@unity.lancs.sch.uk

21 October 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

I write to remind you that the College will close at the end of the school day on Friday 21 October for the half-term break. The College will re-open on Monday 7 November.

It has been a successful start to the academic year at Unity College and I am very grateful for the warm welcome that I have received.

Parents' and Carers' Views

Whilst there is very much to celebrate at Unity College, there are things that we can get better at; I am determined that Unity College will offer the best experience for every single child. I am keen to hear parents' and carers' views and share with you my emerging priorities. I will be in touch soon after the break with information about how I will do this.

Dressed for Business

Children are looking much smarter in their uniforms, although there remains scope for improvement.

As a reminder, the College uniform is:

- Black Unity College blazer
- White shirt – long or short sleeved (*shirts must be tucked in at all times*)
- Black tailored trousers or skirt (*skirts must be of a modest length - no more than 5cm above the knee*)
- Black Unity College V-neck jumper (*optional*)
- Unity College house tie
- Black sensible shoes/black trainers (*no logos; no coloured soles or laces*)
- Black or white socks or black tights (*no over the knee socks*)

Please note that:

- Make-up, if worn, must be minimal; false eyelashes must not be worn
- No acrylic or artificial nails; if nail-varnish is worn it should be a neutral colour
- Hair should be of an appropriate style and a natural colour
- No jewellery, with the exception of a watch
- No piercings of any sort, including retainers

I ask for your support in ensuring that students do not use the holiday as an opportunity to have new facial piercings because they will be asked to remove them when they return to college on 7 November. Similarly, please do not allow your child to have nail or eyelash extensions or to dye their hair an unnatural colour. Please do not wait until the last minute to remove any temporary hair colourings because often this proves more challenging than anticipated!

Adverse Weather

The winter season will soon be upon us. Although I hope that I will not have to close the College due to snow or other adverse weather conditions, our planning for the 'worst case' scenario is robust. Deciding to close a school is one of the most difficult decisions that a Headteacher ever has to make. It is a complex decision and it really is impossible to please everyone. Ultimately, I will only close the College if the safety of students and staff would be endangered by remaining open. Please be aware that many staff do not live locally and travel a distance to college each day: it isn't just the weather in Burnley that I need to take into account! Any decision to close the College will be made by 7.30am and will be posted on the College website and on the Lancashire County Council website: [Unavoidable school closures - Lancashire County Council](#). Local radio will also broadcast news of any closures. In the event of adverse weather, please do not telephone the College; it is unlikely that anyone will be available to take your call. If the College is open but weather conditions make your child's journey to school by road or by public transport difficult, only you can decide whether it is safe for your child to travel. It is not a decision that I, nor my colleagues, can make for you.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Richardson', followed by a horizontal line and a period.

Jane Richardson
Headteacher