

# BANBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

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Principal: Mr A Bell (BA, MA, PQH)



4<sup>th</sup> January 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I would like to take this opportunity at the beginning of a New Year and a new school term, to wish you all a peaceful and happy New Year.

I would also like to take the opportunity to remind you of the events and activities planned for this term. There may be some changes to the original holiday list so it is important to take note of these to assist with your planning.

As all years completed examinations before the Christmas break, you should receive a report by mid-January for your son/daughter, except for Year 8 whose report will be available on the afternoon of the Year 8 Parent consultation. I would ask you to read through these reports and if you have any concerns please let us know.

For your information please note the following:

Years 8 Parent Consultations will take place on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2018, 3:30-5:30pm

Year 9 Parent Consultations will take place on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2018, 3:30-5:30pm.

Our Open Evening will be on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2018.

Staff training on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2018.

Year 11 Parent Consultations will take place on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2018, 3:30-5:30pm.

Prefects Formal will be held on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2018.

Half Term is 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> February 2018.

Year 13 and 14 Parent Consultation will also be on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2018, 3:30pm to 5:30pm.

Year 10 Parents' Afternoon will be from 3:30pm to 5:30pm on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

For those parents' interested in hearing about our post 16 provision for next year, we are holding a Post 16 information Evening on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018.

St Patrick's Bank Holiday on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

Easter holidays run from 26<sup>th</sup> March – 6<sup>th</sup> April 2018.

School begins after the Easter break for pupils on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2018.

To facilitate preparations for Open Night, pupils will leave school at 12:30pm on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2018. The school will also finish at 12:30pm on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2018.

I would also like to update you on other developments we will be undertaking this term. A copy of the revised school's Complaint's Procedure is on the school website. This now has a further stage of referring a complaint that has gone through the previous five stages, to the Northern Ireland Northern Ireland Public Services Ombudsman (NIPSO). The full details of this are on the updated document on the school website.



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The school will also have in operation from the beginning of this term an additional system to protect and safeguard our pupils while they are using the school's computer system from C2K. Called Securus, it monitors the activity of a young person while they are on the internet or using computer applications to ensure that the activity is safe and in line with the school's internet safety policy. Any activity which is deemed as inappropriate is then notified to the school for further action.

We also ask you to continue to support us in encouraging excellent attendance at school. At present the whole school attendance is 94% and is in line with the target that the school has set itself. Sustained and regular attendance at school is one of the important ways that a young person will succeed in their studies and work. Even to miss one day a week over a three week period can have profound effect on their learning.

Finally, if any of your or your child's contact details have changed since September 2017, can you please inform the school office so that the information that we hold in order to make contact with you is as accurate and up to date as possible.

I would continue to encourage you to keep up to date with events and information in the school using the school website at [www.banbridgehigh.co.uk](http://www.banbridgehigh.co.uk). In particular, important examination and revision information for pupils and their parents at various points in the rest of the school year can be found on the website, as well as a copy of the prospectus for 2018/19 in the coming weeks.

My thanks once again on behalf of the school for your on-going support and co-operation.

Yours sincerely,

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Mr A Bell  
Principal