

THORPE ST ANDREW SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM



Sporting Facilities Enhancement

We are pleased to report that thanks to the efforts of our Lettings Manager Mr Hart, the school has attracted two sponsorships.

The FA/Football Foundation have given a grant for us to replace all of our football goals on our grass pitches.

Norwich Sunblinds have also agreed to provide around £2000 worth of blinds to our North Site Sports Hall to support our work and that of the Table Tennis Academy which meets at the school.

Our thanks go to both groups in helping us enhance our facilities.

We are looking for sponsors for many of our enrichment clubs including sports teams, art club, robotics club, science/STEM club, bake off club and many more.

Do you know of any company or individual that would be prepared to help? Please contact the school via the office@thorpe-st-andrew.norfolk.sch.uk email.

Thank you for your support.

Mr Clayton

Mobile Devices in School

You will be aware of some calls for personal mobile devices to be banned from schools. At Thorpe St Andrew School and Sixth Form we do not support this view, for many personal safety reasons, but we do believe students should learn when and when it is not appropriate to use these.

From Monday 14 January, we will be taking a new focus on appropriate use in school and we ask you, as parents to discuss this at home and support the school in its approach during school hours.

Attached to this Newsletter is the poster we will be using as part of our new approach. We believe this approach is based on common sense, appropriate use and not disrupting learning, while embracing new technology.

It is, of course, up to parents to decide if their young person should bring a mobile to school or not. We must remind you that there is no insurance to cover lost, stolen or broken phones. National advice also encourages parents to monitor social media use and to set boundaries for the use of social media and internet at home.

Thanking you in advance for your support.

4 January 2019

Post 16 Choice of Qualification

A new Post-16 choice of qualification, T Levels, is coming in September 2020. T Levels have been designed with employers to help young people's careers take off. Thorpe St Andrew School and Sixth Form will be a pilot school for Digital and Education and Childcare T Level to be delivered in September 2020.

T Levels are in answer to the UK's current skills shortage and will revolutionise vocational education, putting us on par with the rest of the world. To find out more about our current Year 10 students new option, please take a look at the short video from the DFE <https://youtu.be/Bv3zpEAm3sk>.

In May 2018 we found out that we had secured our bid to be one of fifty pilot schools within the UK and last term learnt that we have been successful in bidding for capital funding to assist in the setup of these new qualifications, which will involve at least three months of industry placement over the two years.

For further information, please check <https://thorpestandrewschool.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/T-Level-website-1.pdf> regularly for updates.

New Colleagues

We welcome a number of new colleagues to our staff team:

Mr R Finch	Teacher of English
Miss N Honey	Teacher of Mathematics
Miss C Ramsbottom	Teacher of History
Miss D Gardner	Curriculum Co-Ordinator - Dance
Miss K Curtis	Teacher of Music
Mrs N Kidwai	Teacher of Science



Examination Certificates

Examination Certificates for all leavers are now ready for collection from South Site Reception.



Year 7 Interim Reports

Interim reports for Autumn Assessment are now available via 'My Child at School'. We encourage all parents of Year 7 students to review these grades at home with their child. If you have any concerns, please contact your child's Head of House. Equally, if subject teachers have any concerns they will contact you at home.

Attendance: Norfolk County Council Policy and Letter

The Schools' Attendance Team at Norfolk County Council requires that the letter below be published to all families.



4 January 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian

Attendance at school and legal intervention

Research commissioned by the Department for Education shows missing school for even a day can mean a child is less likely to achieve good grades, which can have a damaging affect on their life chances. At Thorpe St Andrew School and Sixth Form our aim is to work with parents to ensure that all our students receive the most from their education and reach their full potential.

This letter is to remind all parents/carers regarding the law that requires them to ensure that their child attends school regularly. The Government remains very clear that no child should miss school apart from in exceptional circumstances and schools must continue to take steps to reduce absence to support children's attainment.

The Local Authority operates a system where any student will meet the criteria for legal intervention where they have:

1. 10 consecutive sessions of unauthorised absence where some or all of the absence may be attributed to an unauthorised holiday in term-time (for absences from 1 September 2018); or
2. 15% unauthorised absence over a period of 6 school weeks for reasons other than unauthorised term time holiday.

The intervention could be in the form of a Fixed Penalty Notice. Any student at Thorpe St Andrew School and Sixth Form who meets either of the criteria, will be referred to the Local Authority for action to be considered.

If a Fixed Penalty Notice is issued it is a fine of £60 per parent per child which must be paid in one payment in 21 days. If unpaid, a further invoice for £60 per parent per child is issued; both individual invoices would then have to be paid making a total payment of £120 in 28 days. You should be aware that failure to pay the total amount within the timescale will result in legal action being taken.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 7 January 2019 - Year 11 Shared Learning Evening

Tuesday 22 January 2019 - Year 9 Preference Evening