

Up & coming dates

Careers Fair W/C 5/7/21

Virtual transition evening: 8/7/21

Virtual Transition day: 9/7/21

Break up for summer: 23/7/21 12.15pm

Friday 2/7/21

Dear Parents and Carers,

On Thursday this week we held our final ARCH day of the academic year. Students from Y7-10 attended a range of sessions across the day including first aid, an online presentation from St Giles on the topic of County Lines and many more. We offer 6 ARCH days across the year covering PSHE related topics to engage our students in interesting discussion and learning outside of subject areas. Many thanks to Mr Womack and Ms Wells for their hard work and diligence in planning these days, they are always thoroughly enjoyed by all.

In light of the recent warm weather, we have decided to trial tailored shorts for the remainder of summer term. If successful, this will be an option each year, in the summer term, for students who chose to wear them. From next Monday students will be permitted to wear **tailored** shorts as part of their standard uniform. The shorts must be black and tailored; they cannot be cargo shorts, sports shorts or made from jersey, denim or leather look material. Shorts should be on the knee in length. We absolutely do not want student families to incur any additional expense to be part of this trial and so will run two after school sessions to adapt old school trousers into shorts. We had recently discussed trialling this initiative next year and with more warning but do not want students to lose out this year if they want to be part of the trial. The rest of the school uniform would be worn as normal. An example below:

Acceptable



Unacceptable



This week we re-opened our Snack Shack, selling cold drinks and slushies to students on their lunch break. We will begin to reintroduce catering services to the Snack Shack as we move towards September, offering an extra lunch time serving point for our students. Please do encourage your child to get a school dinner, it is easy to top up using ParentPay and we offer a range of meals from sandwiches to full roast dinners.

We have had some questions around student groupings for next academic year. Students will be grouped as they have been this academic year with the new groups starting in September.

- Year 7 and Year 8 are taught in mixed prior attainment groups for all lessons.
- Year 9-11 are taught in foundation and higher groups for Maths and Science, all other groups are taught in mixed attainment groups.
- Group changes generally happen at the end of the academic year, or term, however they may happen mid-term. These changes take into account the whole cohort and will be made in line with teacher assessment and professional judgement.

For details of our rationale behind these groupings please see our school website. Any questions please contact Mrs Coates on a.coates@todhigh.co.uk.

As you may be aware, the Queen's Diamond Jubilee has incurred an extra bank holiday in the year 2022 and, under advice from the Local Authority, we have been asked to add an extra bank holiday into our school calendar for the academic year 2021-2022. I can now confirm that our additional bank holiday will take place on Friday 26th November 2021. If you are wanting further information on term dates please take a look on our website <http://todhigh.co.uk/school-day-and-term-dates/>.

Next week we are holding 'Todmorden High School's Virtual Careers Fair 2021'. Due to the ongoing restrictions in place we have decided to host our annual Careers Fair virtually yet again via our website. On our Careers Programme page (<http://todhigh.co.uk/careers-programme/>) you will find a wealth of information about Post-16 Options including Colleges, Apprenticeships and Universities alongside information from different local and national employers and organisations. We will also be holding a number of interactive talks covering a variety of careers during students focus sessions next week! It is never too early to start thinking about careers and possible routes to those careers and by exploring what options there are out there for you will help you make informed choices for your future! As always, if you have any questions about careers or Post-16 Options please contact Mrs Emily Stansfield on e.stansfield@todhigh.co.uk

My next Virtual Parent Drop-in session has been scheduled for Thursday 8th July 3-4pm. A link will be available for you to attend the event if you have any issues, concerns or feedback for me about the school. This event is run on TEAMS, and meetings take place one to one with me in an online format. You will wait in a lobby and be admitted as the previous visitor leaves. I hope to speak to some of you then.

We have a number of staff leaving us at the end of this summer term:

- Elizabeth Boardman (Head of MFL)
- Oliver Beck (Teacher of Science)
- Carys Lampard (Teacher of Science)
- Kirsty Stead (Teacher of Maths)
- Emma Naylor (Primary – Closing the Gap)
- Shirley Duxbury (Cleaning Team)

We are sorry to lose these staff but we have secured excellent replacements for all.

We are currently recruiting for a school Governor and for a Learning Support Assistant. We are a good school offering fresh opportunities for you to get involved with developing our curriculums and systems, please do check out our vacancies at <http://todhigh.co.uk/recruitment-2/>.

As we do every year, school will close early for the summer holidays. Students will finish lessons on Friday 23rd July 2021 at 11:45am and will then spend half an hour in form, for an end of term celebration, before they leave at 12:15pm. All buses have been arranged for this time.

If we can be of any assistance in the meantime, please don't hesitate to call us on 01706813558 or email admin@todhigh.co.uk and we will get back to you.

Yours Sincerely,



Gill Shirt
Headteacher