



1536



1701

# THE COOPERS' COMPANY AND COBORN SCHOOL

*Love as Brethren*

Headteacher: Ms Sue Hay, BA(Hons), PGDip, NPQH

St Mary's Lane, Upminster, Essex RM14 3HS

| Tel: 01708 250500 | Email: [info@cooperscoborn.org.uk](mailto:info@cooperscoborn.org.uk) | Website: [www.cooperscoborn.org.uk](http://www.cooperscoborn.org.uk) |

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2023

## Re: Year 12 Update

Dear Parent(s) and Carer(s)

As we approach the end of the first month back at school, we thought it would be useful to write and update you on a number of key pieces of information pertinent to your son/daughter's life at school:

### **Study Facilities/Learning Zone/Non-contact time/**

Your son/daughter's timetable will soon include all six additional lessons, known as 'Assessment Periods' or 'Scheduled Study' lessons. These compulsory periods are a critical aspect of 6<sup>th</sup> Form life as your son/daughter transitions to independent learning. They take place in our 6<sup>th</sup> Form Learning Zone where your son/daughter will be supported in their independent academic studies by Mrs Morse our Independent Learning Support Coordinator. It is critical that your son/daughter uses their free time productively when in school and we will be making this expectation clearer in the coming days.

### **Go4Schools**

A reminder about this crucial system. Please ensure that you log-in and use Go4Schools on a regular basis. It is the key method that staff will use to communicate with you about your son/daughter's progress. From private messages, to assessment data, reports and attendance information, it is your 'one-stop shop' of real-time, useful information.

### **Sutton Trust: Pathways Programmes / K+**

We wanted to signpost you to the following mentoring programmes that support young people from certain backgrounds to access leading universities and careers. In partnership with universities and employers, both run engaging programmes that give students practical advice and leave them feeling inspired and more confident about their future. We will be sharing both programmes with your son/daughter in assembly.

- K+ is a two year programme run by King's College London. There are eight subject streams based on what your child may wish to study at university. They will attend lectures and seminars given by King's College London academics, and work with PhD students on academic projects. Students who successfully complete K+ also receive a 2-grade reduced offer on most courses at King's College London and up to a £1000 bursary in the first year if they decide to study there. Please [click here](#) for more information
- The Sutton Trust is another mentoring scheme that works with universities and employers. From academic taster sessions to social activities, students will get the chance to meet like-minded young people from across the UK and explore a subject of their choice at a leading UK university.



1536



1701

# THE COOPERS' COMPANY AND COBORN SCHOOL

*Love as Brethren*

Headteacher: Ms Sue Hay, BA(Hons), PGDip, NPQH

St Mary's Lane, Upminster, Essex RM14 3HS

| Tel: 01708 250500 | Email: [info@cooperscoborn.org.uk](mailto:info@cooperscoborn.org.uk) | Website: [www.cooperscoborn.org.uk](http://www.cooperscoborn.org.uk) |

The other programmes offered link to employer engagement and include 6 pathway programmes into different career paths. Please [click here](#) for more information

## Useful Parents' Guides

Every year we are asked by parents what they can do to support their son/daughter. This is a very difficult question to answer and many parents/carers find it a real challenge. From an academic perspective we know how useful it can be to get as much advice as possible, as such we wanted to signpost you to the following resources:

The Parents' Guide to 'Home Life & 6<sup>th</sup> Form Study' can be accessed by [clicking here](#)

The Parents' Guide to 'Helping your child Stand Out' can be accessed by [clicking here](#)

The Parents' Guide to 'Helping Your Teen Cope With Stress' can be accessed by [clicking here](#)

## Uniform

I wanted to thank all parent(s)/carer(s) for their support of the school uniform policy; Year 12 are looking exceptionally smart and are looked up to as role-models within the school. As the weather changes, it is important that I refer you to the School Uniform Policy, particularly in relation to coats. Please [click here](#) for the policy.

## Parents' Information Evening Presentation

A final reminder that we have recently hosted our 'Information Evening'. A copy of the presentation can be accessed by [clicking here](#)

## 16-19 Bursary Fund

A reminder that school receives funding from the government to support students in their studies during Year 12 and Year 13. If your son/daughter has previously qualified for free school meals, or has been identified as a Pupil Premium student, during their time in secondary education, then please do get in contact with Mrs Jacobs ([hja@cooperscoborn.org.uk](mailto:hja@cooperscoborn.org.uk)) who now administers the Bursary Fund. It is highly likely we will be able to support your son/daughter financially. Additionally, there is a 'discretionary' element to the bursary fund, for example, if the family experiences short term financial hardship. Once again, please do contact us if this is the case and we will do all we can to support you.

## Switching A Level subjects

If your son/daughter is considering switching A Level subject because they are unhappy with their current curriculum choices then it is important that they come and have a conversation with one of us. We are unable to accept any further changes to A level courses after the end of this week (1<sup>st</sup> October). As such, if your son/daughter requests to change an A level course after this date, then this will not be possible and they will remain on their current courses until they complete their A Levels with us.

## Google Classrooms: Google Guardian

As you are aware, the school now makes extensive use of Google Classroom. This is an extremely important aspect of your son/daughter's education and it is used in five main ways:



1536



1701

# THE COOPERS' COMPANY AND COBORN SCHOOL

*Love as Brethren*

Headteacher: Ms Sue Hay, BA(Hons), PGDip, NPQH

St Mary's Lane, Upminster, Essex RM14 3HS

| Tel: 01708 250500 | Email: [info@cooperscoborn.org.uk](mailto:info@cooperscoborn.org.uk) | Website: [www.cooperscoborn.org.uk](http://www.cooperscoborn.org.uk) |

- Materials/Resources from key lessons will be posted on Google Classroom – this is important if your son/daughter misses any lessons, for example, due to illness
- To set homework
- To provide feedback to students on their learning
- For staff to potentially run, 'Google Meet' video sessions with students
- For the pastoral team to communicate with the whole year group, in the absence of our usual delivery mechanism – e.g. assemblies

As a parent/carer you are able to receive a regular email summary of all the posts that your son/daughter has been receiving. I know many of our existing parent(s)/carer(s) found this invaluable over the past few months. We encourage all parent(s) and carer(s) to 'sign up' to join the Google Guardian system.

For more information about the Google Guardian system, please click [here](#)

For a series of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), please click [here](#)

For a useful Youtube video which summarises the key features of the system, please click [here](#)

Thank you for all your ongoing support.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at the school.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Marshall  
**Head of Year 12**

Mr R Bell  
**Deputy Head/Director of 6<sup>th</sup> Form**