



12 March 2018

Dear parents,

Following the postponements as a result of the adverse weather conditions, we have re-arranged the parent support evenings:

Year 8 Parent Support Evening - Tuesday 27th March

Year 11 Parent Exam Support Evening - Wednesday 21st March

Apprenticeship Fair - Wednesday 14th March

Mr Panting and his team have developed the Careers Fair into a major annual event which offers a wide range of advice and opportunity. In response to questions about apprenticeships, we are organising a specific apprenticeship-focussed event on 14th March; details were sent out last week. The event will take place from 2.15pm through to 4pm, and will focus on the various opportunities available through the growing range of apprenticeships. It will be relevant for some of Year 11 and the 6th form, and will be open to parents from 3.30pm. Please contact Mr Panting on panting.chris@ashcombe.surrey.sch.uk if you would be interested in attending as a parent.

Parent Questionnaires

We greatly value the feedback parents give to the school, enabling us to gauge parental perception and to get comments and suggestions. We ask for feedback at each parents' evening (based on the Ofsted Parent View questionnaire), and I would like to thank the parents who made time to complete the questionnaire with over 300 responses in a full year. The results continue to be very positive.

The responses so far for 2017-18 are very similar to the overall picture in 2016-17, and show an exceptionally high level of satisfaction with the overall experience of their child.

At least 97% of those expressing an opinion agreed with all the following statements:

- My child feels safe at school
- My child is making good progress at school
- The school is well led and managed
- I would feel comfortable about approaching the school with questions or a problem
- The school expects my child to work hard and achieve his or her best
- The school is helping my child to become mature & responsible
- The teaching is good

The results have provided a strong affirmation of the views of a wide group of parents about the school, but we are always looking at ways to develop further and, as an example, the recent enhanced Online Reporting is an outcome of the feedback and suggestions from parents.

Admissions for Year 7 for Sept 2018

Offer letters were sent by Surrey C.C. on 1st March to parents applying for a place at secondary school in Year 7 for their child. We are pleased that The Ashcombe continues to be very popular with our upper limit of 240 places being offered. A number of parents who had put Ashcombe as their first choice have been placed on the waiting list but due to the natural "turnover" on the waiting list every year, they can be confident about getting a place here.

We look forward to welcoming the new Year 7 pupils and their parents to the Induction Evening on 2nd July.



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SESSET

Polo Shirts for the summer term

Please note that White Polo Shirts are available to order from PTA Uniform. This can be done by using the paper order form available from Pupil Services Desk or online from the uniform webpage on the school website. Wearing a white Ashcombe logo polo shirt in the summer term is optional.

Music

Year 11 Concert - 14th March

The Year 11 GCSE Music pupils will be giving a concert of their ensemble performances at 6pm on Wednesday 14th March in BPA, prior to their exams. All are welcome.

There is a free "come-and-try" session on orchestral instruments being held during the Spring Break on Thursday 5th April at Gatton Park in Reigate. It is free and all are welcome. For more details please see the website www.surreymusicclub.com or call 01483 519290.

The Academy of Contemporary Music in Guildford is offering free taster lessons on drums, vocals, guitar, bass and music production as part of National Learn To Play Day on 17th March. There will be sessions at 1pm, 2.15pm and 3.30pm. To sign up, use the following link <https://www.acm.ac.uk/learn-play-day-2018/>

Yours sincerely,



D.J. Blow
Headteacher