

Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> January

Dear Parent/Carer,

We have done lots of work this week with students about setting new year's resolutions. We started this work in our routines reset and followed up with assemblies. Teachers have been talking about making good choices and setting good habits throughout the week, too. The important message has been about making changes that are practical and can be done for the long term. January is often a time for many of us to decide that we want to 'change' something – your children have made a great start in their habits during the first week back.

### Attendance

Despite the cold weather, there have been improvements in attendance from before Christmas. However, this is still not where we would like it to be. As you can see below, attendance is lower this week than in the first week of last term. Please continue to work with us to make sure that your child is in school every day. We can manage colds and coughs in school and can contact

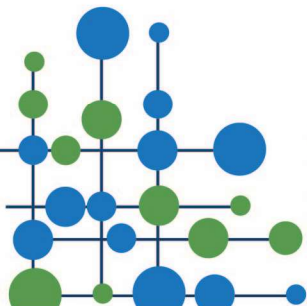
Year group	Week 1 – Autumn term	Week 1 – Spring term
7	98.3%	94.4%
8	95.6%	92.6%
9	97.0%	93.0%
10	92.8%	89.0%
11	94.0%	93.7%


### Mobile phone update

Following the new expectations around mobile phones, I'm pleased to report that this has been clearly delivered by staff and understood and followed by students. Spot checks for phones will be ongoing, but students have been very clear in understanding our expectations.

### Mrs Halawani-Jackson – Head of RE

A huge welcome Mrs Halawani-Jackson to TCA in the role of Head of RE. She started with us on Monday, having worked at Penistone Grammar School previously. I am sure that she will be a superb addition to our talented team and will work with Mrs Rudd to further strengthen our RE curriculum.





## **Mrs Ali – new job**

Whilst one member of staff joins, sadly Mrs Ali will be leaving us during the summer term. She has been appointed as Headteacher of Whitcliffe Mount Academy and she deserves huge congratulations! I am extremely proud of the brilliant job she has done in the four years she has been with us. We are working hard to recruit the best candidate to succeed her and I will let you know about this when I can.

## **Year 9 options**

Over the course of this term, year 9 students will choose their options. This will be started on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January through assemblies, subject taster sessions and information booklets which your child will bring home. To help your child with making their choices, we will be holding an Options Information Evening on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January at 4pm for students and their parents/carers. Further details will follow about this event. I look forward to seeing you there.

## **Year 11 mock results**

Year 11 students will be given their mock results on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January. They will be presented with their results in the same format as they will receive their GCSE results in August, with follow up support for their next steps in the Post 16 application process. If your son/daughter has an interview before Friday we can provide results, and they should see Mr Ward or Mr MacFaul.

Have a lovely weekend after a busy first week back at work or school. We've been very clear with students about how 2026 will be a successful year – by doing what we always ask: be nice, work hard.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Burton  
Headteacher