

Headteacher: Mrs J Fletcher, GMus, NPQH
Coppice Performing Arts School
Ecclestone Road
Wednesfield
Wolverhampton
WV11 2QE

Tel: 01902 558500
Fax: 01902 558501
Email: headteacher@coppice.wolverhampton.sch.uk
Website: www.coppice.wolverhampton.sch.uk



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Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome to the new academic year.

May I first thank all parents who have supported the Coppice uniform expectations and sent students to school in their smart uniform and sports kit. The students are wearing their uniforms with pride and look very smart, representing the high standards that we expect at Coppice. All guidance about uniform is available on our school website, please check this and feel free to clarify any questions with your child's Head of House.

Examination Results

This summer, new and more demanding GCSEs were introduced in English Language, English Literature and Maths with grades changing from A* - G to 9 - 1. Having supported our learners through these courses (and having seen the two cohorts below them attempting these more challenging GCSEs in a wider range of subjects), I am certain that they were much more difficult than the previous GCSEs.

The 'headline' summary of Year 11 achievement is:

	Actual Results August 2017 %
5+ A* - C/4+ With English and Maths	58%
5+ A* - C % all subjects	77%
5 A* - G %	96%
BTEC Level 2 at distinction (d) and distinction* (d*)	97%

We are very proud of how our Class of 2017 achieved in their Year 11 examinations. In the toughest year yet of public examinations Coppice students achieved the highest number of grade A-A* and 7 – 9 in recent years.

Our highest achieving boy from Year 11 was Charlie Graver who was one of just 2000 students in the whole of England to achieve Grades 999 in the new examinations.

His exceptional results were: 9, 9, 9, A* A* A* A* A* d* d* d*.

Our highest achieving girl was Katie Thomas who achieved these spectacular grades : 9 9 8 A* A* A A A A A d*.

In the Sixth Form 98% of Year 13, students achieved A Level passes with all university applicants gaining their chosen place at university on results day. We wish them all a very exciting future ahead.

We are extremely proud of the achievements of all students and we take our responsibility of equipping our young people for their future very seriously. I am confident that all students have great opportunities ahead of them.

This year - we are kicking off from day 1 with every learner "Walking the Walk" of the Classes of 2018! In other words "just do it" rather than talk about it. Our recipe for success for all learners in all year groups is:

Concentrate – Focus – Prepare – Practice – Master the Skill – Believe

I have every confidence that our highly qualified staff and our motivated and engaged students will surpass themselves.

Cashless catering system

Money can be paid into pay points around school for dinner and break sales. Your child will be given an individual pin number, which will allow them to access the cashless catering facilities throughout school.

Lunchtimes

As part of our on-going review of safeguarding procedures all students, except Sixth Form, are required to stay on site to ensure that we can guarantee your child's supervision and safety throughout the school day as part of our duty of care. Students will have indoor eating spaces for hot dinners or packed lunches and will then have time outside in the fresh air. As we enter the autumn months, please ensure that your child has appropriate outdoor clothing with them to wear at lunchtimes. All students have the option to have a locker for a refundable deposit of £5. Please contact student services if you wish your child to have a locker.

Mobile Phones

We have a very simple rule regarding mobile phones. They must be out of sight and turned off (not on "silent") during lesson times and lesson changeovers. If a student fails to do this, their mobile phone will be confiscated and parents may have to collect the phone at the end of school or at their earliest convenience.

Drinking Water

We recognise that a well-hydrated brain is a healthy and active brain. Students are allowed to drink ONLY water in lessons to aid hydration (unless equipment prohibits this). Whilst parents are free to provide healthy soft drinks in their child's packed lunch, we would strongly recommend that water is the healthiest and most acceptable drink in school. Please note that 'energy drinks' are banned at Coppice.

School Uniform

Boys

Black trousers
White shirt
School tie (House Colour)
Black blazer with school badge

Girls

Black tailored skirt or trousers
White Blouse
School tie (House Colour)
Black blazer with school badge

Official grey V-necked jumper or cardigan (girls) with school badge
Black flat shoes, full leather or leather type (**no trainers or trainer type footwear**)
Outdoor coat
School bag
All clothing must be clearly labelled

The official stockist of school uniform is Ron Flowers in Queen Street, Wolverhampton.

School Bag

This is essential to protect the various books issued for which the student is responsible. PE kits should be kept separately in a polythene bag if kept in the same bag as schoolwork.

Jewellery, Hair and Nails

The only jewellery, which should be worn, is:

- a watch
- one ring of sentimental value
- one small pair of studs in pierced ears. No other items of body piercing jewellery should be worn.
- Hair must be of a natural colour and style. Shaved patterns and unnatural hair colour are unacceptable and will not be allowed in school.
- Nails must be natural. Nail varnish and extensions are not acceptable and will have to be removed.

Post 16 Dress Code - Smart Office Dress

Male: collared shirt, tailored trousers, smart shoes.

Female: dress, skirt or tailored smart trousers, shirt, blouse, smart shoes.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the school policy with regard to liability for valuables. Please note that the school cannot be held responsible for any valuables brought into school and subsequently lost, damaged or stolen (e.g. mobile phones, jewellery, money or other personal items).

New Staff at Coppice

I am delighted to welcome a number of new staff to Coppice who will be working with our students as part of our high quality education. Joining us from 1st September are the following teaching staff: Mr S Clow (Teacher of mathematics), Ms C Jack (Teacher of Science), Ms S Meek (Teacher of MFL), Miss A Parrino (Teacher of Health & Social Care), Mr I Turner (Teacher of Science), Mrs T Wickson (Teacher of Psychology), Mr J Bullock (Cover Supervisor), Miss A Evans (Learning Mentor in English), Mrs S Reid (Science Technician), Mrs C Reynolds (Receptionist), Mr B Williams, (Learning Mentor for mathematics).

New Staff roles at Coppice:

The following staff take up new roles and responsibilities from this term:

Mrs Dulai – Head of Moseley House

Mrs Woods – Assistant Headteacher in charge of Student Welfare

Mrs Hilton – Designated Safeguarding Lead for Child Protection.

Mrs Beckett – Assistant Exams Officer

School Fund

I would like to thank all those who have paid the £25 towards School Fund. This money is greatly appreciated by the school and goes towards paying for extras, which have included trophies, awards and mini-bus trips. Any outstanding school fund contributions can be paid to the Finance Officer over the next few weeks. It can either be paid in full (£25), or annually at £5.00 per year.

Motor Vehicles on Site

For your information, please be advised that Year 11 are not allowed motor cycles on the premises. Sixth Form students are required to complete all official documentation with the school office in advance of driving on site. Please also be advised that parents are politely requested not to drive onto the school site to drop off or pick up their child, but instead to wait on the road avoiding neighbours driveways.

Open Evening

School will close at 1:05pm on Wednesday 27th September to allow set up for Open Evening. Many of our excellent student representatives will be returning to school and should be at their department areas by 5:30pm. All student helpers must be **in full, smart school uniform** or PE kit if assisting in a sport area.

We are always proud of the achievements of all students and we all take our responsibility of equipping our young people for their future very seriously. I am confident that all students have great opportunities ahead of them.

Thank you for your continued support and co-operation, I look forward to another successful academic year at Coppice Performing Arts School!

Yours sincerely



Mrs J Fletcher
Headteacher