



Enfield County School for Girls

Email: ecsgeneral@enfieldcs.enfield.sch.uk

www.enfieldcs.enfield.sch.uk  [@EnfieldCounty](https://twitter.com/EnfieldCounty)

Headteacher: Ms Jennifer Gumbrell

March 2024



Dear Parents and Carers

End of Spring Term 2024

We are nearly at the end of a short but very busy term and are looking forward to the Easter break.

The astronomical start of Spring was 20 March and we will all be hoping, I am sure, that along with the welcome lighter mornings and evenings sunshine, blue skies and a little less rain are just around the corner.

The summer term is of course focused on GCSE and A' level public examinations for Year 11s and 13s and we wish all our students the very best for their last few weeks of study and their examinations when they arrive.

We have a blend of open to all and targeted after school, and Easter break study and revision for your daughters to support their preparation for examinations and I urge you to encourage them to take advantage of what is offered and available.

The high expectations that we have of behaviour, attendance, punctuality and uniform are in order to ensure that your daughters feel safe and secure in school, and that they can focus on their learning in a calm, focused and purposeful atmosphere and I thank you for your continued support of our school.

Being a parent is not always plain sailing and there are times that it can be challenging juggling home matters and school expectations.

However, I firmly believe that an active home-school partnership focused on our shared best interests of our students, your daughters is what makes the most productive learning environment and climate for success and I thank you for your part in this.

I look forward to continuing to work with you to support and celebrate your daughters' progress and achievements and thank you again for everything that you do to support your daughters and our school.

School Website

Our new look school website 'goes live' on Wednesday 3 April www.enfieldcs.enfield.sch.uk and I encourage you to visit us here. We also welcome you to join our school Instagram community @enfield_county_school which provides information about school events and celebrates students' achievements.

I wish our Muslim students and families a blessed Ramadan, our Christian students and families a holy and reflective Easter period, and all students and families a safe, happy and restful Spring break.

With very best wishes

Jennifer Gumbrell
Headteacher

End of Term Arrangements

Our last day of this term is Thursday, 28 March 2023. Students will be dismissed from school from **12.00pm** and your daughter should make her way home directly on foot or using public transport.

Year 7, 8 and 9 students should not make their way into Enfield Town to visit shops or food eateries.

All students in years 7-11 know that they are not to visit McDonald's in Enfield Town at any time in their school uniform or at the end of the school day, including an end of term early finish. We thank you for your support in this matter.

[Click here for Enfield Borough School Term Dates 2024-2025](#)

Our school INSET day dates for 2024 - 2025 will be published early next term.

Return to school

The summer term begins on **Monday 15 April 2024 with a 10.30am start to the day** for all students – this will be **Week B**.

Summer Term 2024 Reminders

Student Absence Phone Line

To report student absence: 020 8363 3030/020 8363 9934 – press option 1

If your daughter is going to be absent from school you should do the following:

- Leave a message on the absence line **prior to 8.30am** otherwise you will receive a text message saying your daughter has not registered
- State clearly your daughter's name and year group and a **brief** reason for absence
- You must call the absence line every day of absence unless you have provided the school with a Fit Note from your daughter's GP

We would be grateful if you:



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- **do not** leave any other message on the absence phone line
- **do not** phone the main switchboard to check we have received your absence message
- **do not** phone the main switchboard to tell us your daughter is going to be late

Instead please email ecsgeneral@enfieldcs.enfield.sch.uk for the attention of your daughter's Progress and Achievement Leader who will then be notified of any other non-absence related information. Many thanks from the Attendance Team.

Attendance and Punctuality

I thank you for your contribution to ensuring that your daughter attends school every day as you are a major part of this success.

The vast majority of our students are also punctual to school. However, this is not quite where we would like it to be and, if your daughter struggles in this respect, I thank you for your continued efforts and support of our school in working to address any concerns.

Uniform and Presentation

Addressing uniform and related matters is something that takes up a lot of time when it is not correct and in line with our student dress code and we would much prefer this time to be spent on other positive aspects of school life.

Most parents choose ECSfG as a school of choice for their daughter due to combined factors of the way in which students present themselves, the quality of opportunity and learning and the strong academic outcomes achieved.

As Headteacher I am very proud of our school and the continued work of my colleagues in maintaining these high standards for our school community.

This half term we have been focusing on ensuring that every student is adhering to our school dress code. I thank you and my colleagues here in school for the time spent on this matter with the improvements clear to see. However this work will continue after the Easter break.

It is important that your daughter is aware of this and adheres to our expectations without arguing the matter or claiming to have not been aware of what has been clarified to every student on numerous occasions.

Within our school community, students, parents and staff have differing views regarding the matter of school uniform and its importance. However, as Headteacher I view it as intrinsically linked to the day to day routines, strengths and successes of our school and expect that students who attend our school adhere to this accordingly.

School uniform guidance is detailed at the foot of this letter for your easy reference.

We have families experiencing long term financial crisis impacting on the ability to purchase school uniform items.

If the reason that your daughter is not wearing the correct full school uniform or full PE kit is because of this, I would ask that you contact the school for support in this matter.

Mrs O'Brien, Deputy Headteacher can be contacted by telephone or through email to ecsgeneral@enfieldcs.enfield.sch.uk to make her aware and for us to facilitate support.

Please do not feel uncomfortable or embarrassed to do so - we would much rather support you in ensuring that your daughter is dressed correctly in full uniform than for her to not be.

Jewellery

Jewellery or accessories worn by a student other than that stated in our uniform policy is likely to be confiscated and returned at a later date that is convenient to the school, for example at the end of that school term.

If the item is confiscated we will of course endeavour not to mislay it, however in the busy daily life of the school I am not able to confirm that this would never happen.

It is important for parents/carers and their daughters to be aware that the school will accept no liability for loss of or damage to an item that is not part of school uniform policy (including loss/damage caused by criminal activity such as theft) while the item is on the school site. Therefore meaning that the item will not be replaced or the cost covered by the school.

This could of course be very upsetting for a family if this were to be the case and I ask that this information is reiterated by you to your daughter as it has been here in school having come into effect on Monday, 19 February 2024.

Blazers

Blazers need to be worn at all times and not carried. With the warmer weather just around the corner there is no need for heavy padded jackets with fur trimmed hoods to be worn which will eradicate the frequent and frustrating conversations with students regarding their blazer being in their hand or school bag when it must be worn!

Mobile Phones

A potential national strategy to ban mobile phones in schools has been a recent news item in relation to the detriment of young people's mental health and wellbeing in their access to and amount of time spent on social media.

We have a very clear school policy and practice of 'out of sight and out of sound' relating to mobile phones which is regularly communicated to students.

I thank you for your support in this matter and if you or your daughter are at all uncertain of our expectations and associated practice, I would ask that you or your daughter speak to Mrs O'Brien or her Progress and Achievement Leader.

I fully appreciate that many parents wish for their daughter to have a mobile phone with her in case of an emergency to and from school. However if that is the case I would ask that you also reiterate to her the safety aspect of using it when walking to and from school often accompanied with ear buds and being oblivious to traffic and the possibility of being mugged. We regularly speak to students about their personal safety and this will be best supported by a united and consistent school and home message.

I would also like to remind parents that if a student does bring a mobile phone into school, it is her responsibility to ensure that it is kept safe.



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During the course of the summer term I will be reviewing our current mobile phone policy with a view to potentially moving to 'no smart phone' on school premises guidance. If this is the direction that I decide for us to move to it will be in the best interests of our school community and students, and will be conveyed to all students, parents and carers clearly and in a timely manner.

Rosemary Avenue morning drop off and end of the day pick up

Please do ensure consideration towards local residents who might require access to and from their homes by car during these times. Blocking local roads by careless or illegal parking creates friction between our school and residents and I would really appreciate your support in ensuring that this does not happen and that you are mindful of the safety of our students and other young or elderly persons using footpaths and crossing roads. Parking on verges, zig-zag yellow lines and across pavements is not acceptable.

With the days lengthening and the weather becoming milder it would be positive to see more students developing their independence and travelling to school by public transport and by foot where that is possible.

School Uniform Guidance

Thank you for supporting your daughter and our school by ensuring that our full school uniform policy is followed at all times. This is appreciated by us in school.

In order to ensure standards are maintained throughout the day, students should arrive at school in correct uniform (or **full correct** PE kit on key stage 3 PE day) and will be expected to leave school dressed in the same way.

May I remind parents/carers that school trousers must only be the school issue dark navy with the school badge for ALL current year 7-9 students and for students in years 10 and 11 when purchasing new school wear.

Kilts should be worn at a length that is acceptable for a school uniform with either black or navy knee length socks or tights. Leggings under the school kilt are not permitted.

All school blouses should have the reverse open collar, however the shirt with the school badge on is optional. If a vest or undergarment is worn under the school blouse, it should not be visible above the neckline or extend beyond the sleeves.

Headscarves and coverings must be either plain black, dark navy or bottle green (to match the colours in the school kilt and of the school blazer and jumper). These should be worn on their own with nothing underneath and with no embroidery or beading of any kind.

Coats must be worn over blazers and blazers should not be carried. If your daughter has her coat on and is carrying her blazer, she will be expected to remove her coat and put her blazer on. Hoodies of any colour or type are not permitted to be worn either under the blazer or in place of a coat.

Please ensure that your daughter returns to school after the half term in full school uniform and a reminder that students are only allowed to wear one stud in each ear, no hoops or dangly earrings and no other items of jewellery (except one plain gold or silver small nose stud) are permitted. Students are not allowed acrylic nails, long natural nails or varnished nails.

School uniform can be purchased at:

John Smith & Sons
157 Lancaster Road, Enfield EN2 0JJ
Tel: 020 8363 2424
www.smithsschoolwear.co.uk

Lyons School Shop
242 Hertford Road, Enfield EN3 5BL
Tel: 020 8804 3627
www.uniform4kids.com

If you have any concerns regarding our school uniform or are experiencing financial difficulty relating to this, please contact Mrs O'Brien via ecsgeneral@enfieldcs.enfield.sch.uk

Post 16 students do not wear uniform which means that they are able to express a preference and personal expression in their appearance. It is therefore vital that they wear their ID and lanyard visibly on their person at all times whilst in the school building and outside space.

A taste of what has been happening this term

Year 11 have completed their final set of Pre Public Examinations (PPEs) with a mature attitude. This week Year 11 students have been issued with revision schedules as part of our push in the final 7 weeks (5 school weeks) before exams start. Interventions will continue after the holiday during lunchtime and after school and we have a targeted programme of revision classes running over the Easter Holiday. We hope the students maximise and use their time wisely over the Easter Holidays.

Our House Team at Key Stages 3 and 4 have continued to meet and feed into our school improvement plans. We thank them for suggestions on how we can improve our House Days and work around anti-racism. Ms Smith, Assistant Headteacher.

Sixth Form

PPE #5 for Year 13. This marks the final practice exams for Year 13 before their Public Exams start on 14 May 2024. For Year 13 the sprint to the end is now on.

PPE #2 for Year 12. This term is one of bedding in. The novelties of Sixth Form have worn off and the high expectations of work are sinking in.

Culture Day in the Sixth Form. This was a celebration of national food, dress and dance. Students brought in cultural dishes to share, wore national cultural dress and performed national dances.

A new Head Girl Team has been appointed and they have launched their first initiative, a writing competition called the ECSfG Anthology. The outgoing Head Girl Team planted two oak trees as part of their Green Schools Initiative.

There have been trips in science, classics and politics.

Please see the latest [Post 16 Newsletter](#) with a sincere thank you to our Sixth Form Media 'Dream Team' students. Mr Lloyd, Assistant Headteacher for Post 16.

Year 11

Since taking over as Progress and Achievement Leader of 11, I have been incredibly proud and inspired by the vast majority of students who work so hard and are fantastic role models. I want to celebrate this with you through this newsletter. I have been delighted by the number of students who have made appointments, or spontaneously arrived at the Year 11 PALs office, to have a



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conversation and share with me about the things that they enjoy and their future plans and ambitions.

There has undoubtedly been a shift in atmosphere, with students focussing on what they need to achieve to get to where they want to go. Students are aware of the rapid approach of their GCSE examinations and how quickly time passes. Interventions have been well attended by students wanting to achieve and making the most of their opportunity to go over old content, ask questions and hone their exam technique. I have been into several of these sessions and have been hugely impressed by the engagement of students and the relaxed, yet focussed atmosphere I have observed. I would like to thank students for their contributions towards the success of the sessions and to the staff that have given up their time after school, to support students. Lastly, I wish all the students a restful and productive Easter break and look forward to seeing them on their return. Ms Sharpe.

Year 10

Year 10 have had another busy term settling into their GCSE studies. The textiles group went for a visit to the V&A museum (see photos below) which will be an inspiration for their future pieces. Over 60 girls took part in the Jack Petchey Speak Out competition. Our school winner was Anisa who went on to take part in the regional final at the Grammar School. Ms McNeill.



Year 9

Year 9 has enjoyed a highly successful term, fully engaging in the diverse opportunities available to them. Throughout the term, we've fostered a consistent culture of celebrating academic achievements, exemplified by our Attendance and Attitudes Rewards. Over 50 achievement certificates were awarded at different intervals, culminating in our end of the term Awards Assembly and a bespoke Disney movie screening, specifically for students nominated for subject excellence, outstanding attendance, punctuality, and commendable effort.

Notably, Year 9 excelled in the Magistrates heats competition, clinching first place and advancing to the regional level, a remarkable accomplishment of which we are all immensely proud of as a school. Furthermore, Year 9 have pioneered participation in the Young Leadership Training and UCL Scholars Programmes, significantly enhancing the academic performance of those involved.

An additional highlight of the term was the successful introduction of our Options Assembly for Year 9. Here, curriculum leaders provided crucial insights into their respective subjects, along with valuable information on transferable skills and potential career paths. This initiative ensures that

Year 9 students are well-prepared to make informed decisions regarding their GCSE options following the Easter break. Ms Ogundairo.

Year 8

Students in year 8 continue to flourish, work hard and make excellent progress. They have been lucky to have been given the opportunity to participate in three trips so far this year, and on each trip they have conducted themselves impeccably, and have thoroughly enjoyed the extracurricular experience. The most recent being a trip into London to visit The Globe Theatre to watch a performance of Romeo and Juliet to support their studies in English. Ms Neocleous.



Year 7

For National Science and Engineering week, Year 7 worked well as a team and have successfully built a racing car! They also made detailed posters on what makes cars fast/ the forces acting on cars. Winners were able to race their cars at the end of the lesson. Year 7 also took part in a Modern Foreign Languages competition. Well done to Year 7 for consistently taking part in subject competitions to demonstrate that they are following our school values by taking part in opportunities, that they are respectful, hard working, and that they are aiming high. Ms Obuz and Ms Hart (Progress and Achievement Leaders) are also very proud of the Year 7s extracurricular PE successes too!

Science

It was British Science Week in March. This was celebrated in our school on Monday 11 March to Wednesday 13 March, with a different key stage 3 year group off timetable on each day, to have an afternoon of creative, investigative scientific fun. A team of resourceful students from the sixth form also gave up their time to support year 7, 8 and 9 students with their project work. The theme this year was "Time" and the school Houses competed against each other to win the coveted school title of Science House Champion. Year 7 made race cars, Year 8 made time-keeping devices and year 9 experimented with speeding up rates of chemical reactions. The students worked in teams to produce posters on ideas about time and their experiments. The best work will be entered for the National British Science Week competition. The winners of the House Competition within school will be announced in the year group Achievement Celebrations during assemblies in this final week of the Spring Term. We are amazed by the way students enthusiastically took up the challenge and worked together to produce well thought-out project work in a short space of time. Well done to everyone involved, including the sixth form students and a particular thank you to Ms De Freitas Maalouf for bringing it all together for the students. Ms Hadjidaniel, Head of Science.



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ECSfG Passport and Careers

It has been an exciting half term for our ECSfG Student Passports. We have celebrated many students achieving their Bronze, Silver and Gold Passport certificates. These are awarded on students completing tasks, based on our school core values. This half term we have concentrated on our core value of Respect. We look forward to moving to our next core value in the Summer Term, with a focus on our core value of Equality, as we continue to recognise more of our student successes across Key Stages 3 and 4.

In terms of Careers, we delivered an interactive assembly to our students across Year 7 to Year 11, where students were able to share their student voice and determine what pathways they hope to pursue. Our Year 10 students will have the afternoon of Wednesday 10 July at the Upper Site, dedicated to meeting different people from diverse careers, just as our Year 11 and Year 13 students enjoyed last year. A great opportunity to think about their future pathways. It would be wonderful if our parents / carers were able to support us in this afternoon permitting us to have an even wider variety of careers for our students to think about. If you are able to support us in this event, please email for the attention of Ms Costa via ecsgeneral@enfieldcs.enfield.sch.uk confirming your daughter's name, your own contact details, your profession and we will get back to you to confirm further details. Thank you.



Clubs and Enrichment Activities

I would like to update you with the wide range of extracurricular clubs and activities that are available to your child at Enfield County School for Girls during this upcoming term.

We believe that participating in clubs is an excellent way for students to engage with real-world challenges, promote curiosity and develop important life skills. The diverse selection of clubs we offer cater to various interests, allowing your child to explore their potential.

Some of the clubs available include:

- Chess
- Astronomy
- Debate
- Badminton
- Netball
- Science
- Drama

These are just a few clubs that are on offer at Enfield County School for Girls. To see the full range of clubs on offer please visit our [school website](#) where the timetable for each year group is published.

We firmly believe that participating in extracurricular clubs can enhance your child's school experience, and we look forward to supporting them in their chosen pursuits. If you have any questions or require more information, please feel free to contact us at ecsgeneral@enfieldcs.enfield.sch.uk Thank you for your ongoing support.

Personal Development

Students across the school have had a range of events to support their Personal, Social and Health curriculum. Years 9 and 10 had a visit from the Police and Transport for London on the topic of sexual harassment on public transport and how to report and deal with it if it happens. The same year groups also had a theatre performance to teach them about what constitutes an unhealthy relationship and how to call out bullying of LGBTQ+ students. Last week two NHS nurses taught years 11 - 13 about female reproductive health and how to access it in Enfield. The students in all these events behaved impeccably and the visitors were really impressed by the students' participation and maturity.

To support students' well-being in the run up to the exams there have also been workshops for years 11 - 13 on beating exam stress. Post 16 students also had a presentation on the self-referral service for mental health support in the Enfield.

<https://www.barnetandenfieldtalkingtherapies.nhs.uk/enfield/>

Students in all year groups are reminded that Kooth offers, free, safe and confidential support online from trained counsellors: www.kooth.com

Support for Families and Activities for Students

Enfield have produced a great directory of both support for families and activities for students. The directory can be found by clicking the link below

[Early Help Directory - Community services for the London Borough of Enfield \(enfielddirectory4all.co.uk\)](http://enfielddirectory4all.co.uk)



Clothing and Household Sale

**Come and support
The amazing work of Enfield
Women's Centre
&
Sisters in Mind**

New and nearly new items for sale

Saturday 6th April 2024

1pm -4pm

The Qube, High Street ,Ponders End

EN3 4DL



**Ponders End
Community
Development Trust**

