



# Sir John Cass's Foundation and Red Coat CofE Secondary School & Sixth Form College

*We will achieve excellence and inspire generations the Cass way*

Headteacher: Mr P. Woods

September 2018

## New Academic Year 2018/19

Dear parent/carer,

Welcome back to the new school year. I would especially like to welcome our new Year 7 students and those joining us in the Sixth Form. I look forward to the year of learning ahead and to achieving our usual high standards by working in partnership with you.

### Executive Headship

I have been asked by both the Local Authority and the London Diocesan Board for Schools to become the Executive Headteacher of Sir John Cass School and Raine's Foundation School and I have agreed to accept the role. I will spend three days per week at Raine's and two days per week at Sir John Cass. I want to reassure you that I remain Head teacher at Sir John Cass.

For those of you who do not know Raine's, it is a mixed, 11-18, Voluntary Aided Church of England School in Bethnal Green with approximately 815 pupils on roll. It is one of the oldest schools in East London having been first established in 1719.

I can assure all of you that whilst there will obviously be changes, this decision will not affect the quality of teaching and learning at our school, and as I said above, I will continue as Headteacher here at Sir John Cass. In the near future I will organise a process to appoint an Associate Head teacher to deputise for me when I am at Raine's. In the meantime, Ms Hussain and Mr Siaw will be jointly in charge when I am not on site.

### Exam Results 2018

Please note that students are graded from 1- 9 (9 being the highest grade). Headline figures for GCSE results at Sir John Cass Red Coat are as follows:

- 87% of students secured grade 4+ in English.
- 73% of students secured grade 4+ in mathematics.
- 69% of students secured grade 4+ in English and mathematics combined.

Our Sixth Form results are as follows:

A Level:

- 20% of students secured grades A\*-A.
- 54% of students secured grades A\*-B.

Special congratulations go to Joey Santer-Bream (A\*,A\*,A\*) who will be studying Engineering at Cambridge, Sarina Quiyum (A\*,A,A) taking Medicine at Kings, Mashiyath Chowdhury studying Economics at Queen Mary and Hafizur Rahman studying Geography at LSE.

The Department for Education produced a short video to help parents / carers understand the new GCSE grading system. The video can be found via our website at: [www.sjcr.net/our-school/exam-results.html](http://www.sjcr.net/our-school/exam-results.html)

### Student Planners

Each student has been given their own student planner at the start of the academic year. The planner provides students a space to write homework / independent study, and provides students with useful reference pages. The planner is also an easy way for parents and staff to communicate with one another. For this reason, we ask that you to check and sign your child's planner weekly.

## **Electronic Devices**

We prefer students not to bring electronic devices into school, but understand that some parents feel happier knowing their child has a phone with them. Unfortunately, they can be easily damaged and, if lost, are difficult to find. The school cannot take responsibility for electronic devices that are lost or stolen and, whilst we can assist with any investigation, we cannot promise to invest substantial amounts of staff time. I strongly advise parents to ensure that devices are covered by home insurance policies and would suggest that if it is necessary for a student to bring a device into school, they bring a cheap, basic model.

I would also like to highlight the following points:

- Mobile phones, personal hand-held devices and music players must be switched off, out of sight and not checked during the school day. If they are used, they will be confiscated.
- We trust students to use their devices appropriately. Any student who uses a device inappropriately, for example engaging in cyberbullying or any online harassment, will be banned from bringing their device into school, as well as facing further consequences.

## **Key Events for this Academic Year**

All dates can be found on the school website, however below are the 2018-19 term dates as well as those for parents' evenings and other key events. Please check our website and social media feeds for regular updates.

### **Autumn Term**

Open Evening	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> October 2018
Autumn Half Term	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> Oct – Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> October 2018
Last day of Autumn Term	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> December 2018

### **Spring Term**

Staff INSET day	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> January 2019
Start of the spring term for students	Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2019
Academic Review Day	Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> January 2019
Year 11 Parents' Evening	Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> January 2019
Year 9 Parents' Evening	Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2019
Spring Half Term Holiday	Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> February - Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb 2019
Year 9 Options Evening	Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> March 2019
Year 10 Parents' Evening	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> March 2019
Year 8 Parents' Evening	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April 2019
Last day of Spring Term	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> April 2019

### **Summer Term**

Start of the summer term for students	Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April
Summer Half Term Holiday	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> May - Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2019
Year 7 Parents' Evening	Year 7 Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> June 2019
Last day of Summer Term	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2019

## **Late starts**

Please note that on the following three dates school will start at the later time of 11am for all students. These three late starts will be following our open evenings and Prize Giving for the main school and the Sixth Form.

- Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October (*11am start to school*)
- Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November (*11am start to school*)
- Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November (*11am start to school*)

Reminders will be sent out via text, the school website and the school's social media accounts.

## **Absence Line**

The school has a phone number which can be used to report student absence: 020 7790 6712 and select option 2. Please use this number to report any child absences. The line also has a voicemail service to allow for parents to leave messages outside of school hours.

## **School Reception**

Please note that our school reception has now moved to our Bromley Street entrance. The Stepney Way reception is now closed.



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## **Free School Meals Eligibility**

Qualification for free school meals is based on the parent/carer(s) being in receipt of any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income of £16,190 or less
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on' - the payment someone may receive for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.
- Universal Credit (provided their annual net earned income does not exceed £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of the most recent monthly assessment periods).

If you qualify under any of the above, you can claim by telephoning the benefits service on 020 7364 5001 or visiting one of the One Stop Shops:

- Bethnal Green One Stop Shop - 1 Rushmead
- Bow & North Poplar One Stop Shop - 1 Ewart Place
- South Poplar One Stop Shop - 15 Market Square
- Stepney & Wapping One Stop Shop - 260 Commercial Road

The One Stop Shops are a drop-in facility and appointments are not necessary. Opening times can be found on the Tower Hamlets website [www.towerhamlets.gov.uk](http://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk)

## **Important Information Documents**

There are a number of useful and important policies and documents we would like to draw your attention to, in particular the Safeguarding Policy.

Important documents and letters sent home to parents can be found under the 'for parents' section on the new school website.

I welcome all new students and parents who have joined our school community, and look forward to what I hope will be another successful year for Sir John Cass Red Coat School.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Woods

**Headteacher**