



Charles Darwin School

Aspire—Endeavour—Achieve

HEADLINES

Ventilation

One of the key precautions that we have to have in place across the school is good enhanced ventilation and therefore windows and doors are generally kept open. As we move towards winter, some parts of our school will be colder than normal and if the temperature is much colder than is reasonable staff will be allowing students to wear their outside coats in class up to the October half term. Please note that this does not mean hoodies, tracksuit tops or any other such items.

After half term students may wear a school jumper (V-neck navy blue), or a suitable equivalent V-neck plain dark blue jumper and will no longer be allowed to wear coats in the classroom. It is important for long term maintenance of standards that we do not let uniform expectations become diluted.

Meetings with Parents

As part of our precautions to reduce the transmission of coronavirus we are asking parents who wish to meet with a member of staff to make an appointment. In person meetings can take place but with one parent only and we would appreciate it if parents would wear a mask.

Sunil Chotai

GCSEPod Webinar Year 9 - Year 11

As the dust begins to settle on the start to the term, students will hopefully be getting into a flow of learning. To help engage students at this crucial time we have an exciting opportunity for them to take control and accelerate their learning.

The team at GCSEPod (the online learning platform to which the school subscribes) are collaborating with Cameron Parker, a renowned motivational speaker for schools and colleges. Through this collaboration we are recommending his free webinar to students to inspire them to succeed. Including practical tips on how to use GCSEPod that Cameron will be incorporating into his session.

On the 6th of October 2020 for 60 minutes students will be transported in to a fast paced and high energy webinar which will coach them on:

1. How to prepare for the new school year, so that you can get the grades you deserve.
2. How to get motivated, when you really can't be bothered.
3. How to bounce back from lockdown with confidence.
4. How to use anxiety and stress to your advantage.
5. How to use school, so that you CAN have the future you want.

Students can remain anonymous and parents can watch with them as Cameron makes goal setting, study strategies and building confidence seem easily attainable. This is a national event and response to this webinar is likely to be high and places are limited, so those interested should sign up as soon as possible

Students can register for the webinar via <https://www.gcsepod.com/free-resources/cameron-parker-webinar/>

Mr Boyden

Term Dates 2020-21

Autumn 2020

Tuesday 1st September - Friday 16th October
Half term: Monday 19th October – Friday 30th October
Monday 2nd November – Friday 18th December

Christmas Holiday: Monday 21st December 2020 - Friday 1st January 2021

Spring 2021

Monday 4th January – Friday 12th February
Half term: Monday 15th February – Friday 19th February
Monday 22nd February – Thursday 1st April

Attendance

Winning Tutor Groups week ending 25.09.20

| | |
|-----------|--------|
| 7LDa | 97.80% |
| 8LBy | 99.30% |
| 9KWo | 97.10% |
| 10PDg/STi | 97.50% |
| 11GQu | 96.80% |
| 12SMe/CLu | 98.20% |
| 13TJo | 97.40% |

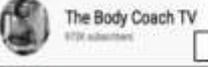
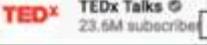
History Stars

10A1 have made a fantastic start to their new GCSE History topic. They have shown a keenness to learn and develop their knowledge and understanding. Their attitude and behaviour has been exemplary. I look forward to continuing to monitor their effort and progress.

Year 9

At the start of term I launched a 60 day 'healthy mind, healthy life' challenge. It would be great to see more students involved and start their first 30 days. I would encourage Year 9 to keep a record of this and send me their evidence at the end of their 30 and then 60 days. Please see the first 30 days below, the full plan can be found in your Tutor Packs.

Miss Zysemil

| | | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|--|---|
| Day 1 – Leave three happy notes for someone else to find in your house. <input type="checkbox"/> | Day 2 Make a card for someone's birthday/celebration coming up <input type="checkbox"/> | Day 3 Call a relative or friend who is far away and have a chat with them. <input type="checkbox"/> | Day 4 Write down five things you are grateful for. <input type="checkbox"/> | Day 5 Research three jobs / career paths that interest you. <input type="checkbox"/> | Day 6 Download a mindfulness App (CALM) on your phone. <input type="checkbox"/>  |
| Day 7 Visit a virtual museum! Go online and explore the collections online. <input type="checkbox"/> | Day 8 Get in contact with a local care home and arrange to send a letter to one of the residents <input type="checkbox"/> | Day 9 Go on YouTube and try...  <input type="checkbox"/> | Day 10 Look at the last 20 photos on your phone and think about how they make you feel. <input type="checkbox"/> | Day 11 Say something positive to everyone in your household today. <input type="checkbox"/> | Day 12 Do something helpful for a friend or family member today. <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Day 13 Do a chore in the house without being asked to do it. <input type="checkbox"/> | Day 14 Send a positive text to ten of your friends. <input type="checkbox"/> | Day 15 Listen to your favourite song and dance around the room. <input type="checkbox"/> | Day 16 Stay off social media for >3 hours straight and keep yourself occupied <input type="checkbox"/> | Day 17 Take a selfie and note down 5 things you like. <input type="checkbox"/> | Day 18 Play a game that you haven't played in a while. <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Day 19 Think about two role models in your life. Why do they inspire you? <input type="checkbox"/> | Day 20 Create a postcard for somewhere you have previously visited <input type="checkbox"/> | Day 21 Play a card game or board game you haven't played in a while <input type="checkbox"/> | Day 22 Sit down in a silent room and focus on your breathing for 5 minutes <input type="checkbox"/> | Day 23 Email one of your teachers to say thank you for something <input type="checkbox"/> | Day 24 Write down 5 things you are thankful for in your life. <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Day 25 Write a blog about something you enjoy doing. <input type="checkbox"/> | Day 26 Search on YouTube a "Tedx talks by kids"  <input type="checkbox"/> | Day 27 Watch a film with a family member and make sure you turn your phones off. <input type="checkbox"/> | Day 28 Make sure you get >8 hours sleep tonight. Note how you feel the next day. <input type="checkbox"/> | Day 29 Draw a picture of what you see in your garden or out of your window. <input type="checkbox"/> | Day 30 Make breakfast for another family member <input type="checkbox"/> |

PE Lessons

We are ecstatic to announce that core PE lessons for all year groups (7-11) will be starting on Monday 5th October. The PE team would like to thank parents for their support and understanding so far this half term but we are now ready to begin practical lessons. All students have 3 PE lessons over the two week timetable. We will be teaching one lesson a week as a practical lesson the third lesson will still be in a classroom based on topics within Sport, PE and Health. Students will need to arrive to school in school uniform and bring their Charles Darwin PE kit to school as we will be using the changing room area. Please make sure footwear is appropriate for the lesson.

Miss Case

| Year Group | Week 1 Practical Lesson | Week 2 Practical Lesson | Theory lesson (PE kit not needed) |
|------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| 7 | 7X - Mon P5 7Y - Thurs P4 | 7X - Mon P4 7Y - Tues P3 | 7X - Week 2 Wed P2 7Y - Week 1 Wed P2 |
| 8 | 8X - Fri P1 8Y - Wed P4 | 8X - Wed P4 8Y - Wed P3 | 8X - Week 2 Fri P2 8Y - Week 1 Thurs P1 |
| 9 | 9X - Thurs P5 9Y - Thurs P2 | 9X - Thurs P2 9Y - Thurs P1 | 9X - Week 2 Fri P3 9Y - Week 2 Fri P5 |
| 10 | 10X - Mon P2 10Y - Mon P4 | 10X - Thurs P5 10Y - Thurs P4 | 10X - Week 1 Fri P5 10Y - Week 2 Thurs P4 |
| 11 | 11X - Fri P3 11Y - Fri P4 | 11X - Fri P4 11Y - Fri P1 | 11X - week 2 Mon P5 11Y - Week 1 Mon P3 |

Vacancies

Learning Support Assistant 25 hours per week Monday – Friday, term time only (actual salary £12,146 – pay award pending)

We are looking to appoint a Learning Support Assistant to join a well-established team supporting a range of students' needs in class, in small groups and/or specialised individual learning. Applicants should ideally have experience of working with secondary-aged students with a range of SEN; *experience of working with students with ASD would be an advantage.*

Applicants should have good English and Maths skills (GCSE equivalent grade C or above) and be confident working with IT.

Further details and an application form are available on our website and should be sent to jho@cdarwin.com. Closing date: 9th October 2020. Please note CVs alone cannot be considered.

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare and safety of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. Any offer of employment will be subject to a DBS Enhanced Disclosure and full background checks.



Charles Darwin School

Aspire - Endeavour - Achieve

| 2019/20 GCSE outcomes | | 2019/20 A Level outcomes |
|--|-----|--------------------------|
| English & Maths (9-4 in both subjects) | 72% | 22% at A*-A |
| English (9-4) | 81% | 48% at A*-B |
| Maths (9-4) | 80% | 86% at A*-C |
| Science (A*-C at least 2 sciences) | 70% | 100% at A*-E |

Virtual Open Morning

Saturday 10th October 2020

www.cdarwin.com

Families of prospective students will be able to watch a virtual tour of our high performing school and see presentations outlining key elements of our provision.

There will also be a team of staff available on the day for a live online event via the school website from 9.00am until 12.00 noon where we will be available to answer queries via email.



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