



# St John's CofE VC School and Specialist Engineering College



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20th June, 2011

Dear Parents & Carers

**Re: Vertical Tutoring at St. John's and new House System: Wednesday 22nd June, 2011**

As you are aware, we are changing to a system of vertical tutoring from **Wednesday 22nd June, 2011**. This means that instead of being in a tutor group of students his/her own age, your child will be placed in a registration group consisting of a few members of each year group.

Each vertical tutor group will belong to one of four houses, which will enable us to develop a strong sense of community in each house. As you can imagine, there is a great deal of excitement about which forms students will be in. Due to GCSE examinations, all students were told today at 2:30pm.

**Times of the school day** will also change and from Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup>, the times will be as follows:

08:30 – 08:35 Morning registration  
08:35 – 09:35 Lesson 1  
09:35 – 10:35 Lesson 2  
10:35 – 10:55 Break  
10:55 – 11:55 Lesson 3  
11:55 – 12:55 Lesson 4  
12:55 – 13:40 Lunch  
13:40 – 14:40 Lesson 5  
14:40 – 15:00 Afternoon registration

Punctuality will be imperative from Day 1. Students must ensure that they are in school on time, particularly as morning registration is only five minutes long.

The implementation of vertical tutoring is going to have a really positive impact on our school and we regard Wednesday 22nd June as a new start for everyone. We expect our students to embrace the spirit of competitiveness that will result from our new House system and Form Tutors and House Leaders will be ensuring that all school rules are adhered to so they can prove themselves to be the best in the school! I have listed some of these key rules below:

- Mobile phones and iPods are not allowed to be used in school at any time. If students bring phones or iPods to school, they must be switched off and in a bag.
- Students are expected to arrive at every lesson, including registration, on time and in full school uniform.
- Nail varnish and cardigans are not part of school uniform.
- School shoes should be plain black (no logos) and leather. Canvas shoes do not conform to St John's uniform policy.

Our School Council visited Brentwood County High last week and our students were really impressed with what they saw. Information from their visit has now been passed on to the rest of the school and there is definitely a feeling of excitement as we approach Launch Day. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you, as ever, for your invaluable support.

Yours sincerely

**Mr G Yerosimou**  
Headteacher