



Sponne School
A Music & Science Academy

Dream Believe Achieve

September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to Year 8!

Welcome back to Year 8, I hope all of you have had a good summer break. It has been so lovely to hear all of the amazing things you have been up to and I hope you are all ready for the exciting challenges of the year ahead. I have already been to a number of lessons and it was so pleasing to see the positive start the year group have made by engaging with their lessons and focusing on their learning.

Pathways

During Year 8, all students must decide which subjects they wish to continue studying in Year 9 as GCSE courses. This means that students will have some tough decisions ahead of them. Please rest assured that their tutors and subject teachers will give them plenty of support and guidance throughout the year to help them make an informed decision. Careers advice will be one of the main topics for PSHE lessons this year. The GCSE Pathways process starts in earnest after Christmas, so there is no need to rush decisions. You will be able to discuss the Pathways process with staff at **Year 8A Progress Evening on Tuesday 11th February, Year 8B Progress Evening on Thursday 27th February**, and again at the **Year 8 Pathways Evening on Thursday 6th March**. Further details will follow closer to the time.

Organisation

Last year was a brilliant year for us and in order to maintain this outstanding performance, Year 8 students need to start with a determination to do their best. Please encourage your young person to work hard and talk to their teachers if they need any help. Being organised is the key to success; students will be expected to be organised by having the right equipment for school – 3 Pens, 2 pencils, a ruler, a reading book, and any other equipment (e.g. exercise books, calculator, PE kit, food ingredients). Valuable lesson time can be wasted whilst students try to borrow equipment from others and students can pick up avoidable sanctions, so please ensure your young person is prepared for lessons each day. Copies of student timetables are on Go4Schools.

Headteacher: Graham Forbes
Sponne School, Brackley Road,
Towcester, Northants, NN12 6DJ

E: info@sponne.org.uk
T: 01327 350284
www.sponne.org.uk



Homework

Students are expected to be organised regarding their homework, ensuring it is completed and handed in on time. Teachers will be setting homework and adding this to the Go4Schools system. This is accessible for students and parents to view, along with details of the task, deadline and a recommended length of time for completion. This allows you to be more involved with your child's homework and have more of an insight and the information to enable you to support them with it from home. The learning resources centre (LRC) is open from 8am-4:30pm, offering a quiet place to study for students who prefer to do their homework in school. We also offer a KS3 Homework Club, after school until 4:30pm, on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. **Well organised students consistently do well at Sponne.** Please encourage your young person to get into good habits to help themselves.

Uniform

As we continue to uphold the school's high standards, we kindly remind you of the importance of ensuring your child follows the uniform policy. Please make sure that students wear their blazers to school each day, as this is a key part of our uniform. Additionally, shirts should be neatly tucked in at all times to maintain a smart appearance. Long acrylic nails are not permitted as they pose a health and safety risk. Your support in reinforcing these expectations helps foster a sense of pride and discipline within the school community. Thank you for your continued cooperation.

Form Tutors

Form tutors are the first point of contact. Should you have any worries or concerns then please contact them via email or telephone where they will be happy to help in any way they can; their email addresses are listed below. Mr Langman will support us as the Senior Leadership link for our year group, as well as Mr Radford as Assistant Progress Learning Leader. We also welcome Mr Lopes (8PL) who will be working with the year group.

Should you require any support as a parent, please contact Ana Lopes, who is our Parent Support Advisor - alopes@sponne.org.uk

I am really looking forward to another successful year for this fantastic group of people who have set themselves high standards based on their efforts in Year 7. I am confident that with the support of staff and parents/carers they will continue to excel in Year 8.

Yours faithfully

Miss Hillery

Progress Learning Leader for Year 8: jhillery@sponne.org.uk

8CCM- Mr McDermott - cmcdermott@sponne.org.uk

8CML- Ms Mcloughlin - cmcloughlin@sponne.org.uk

8KAM- Miss McKinnon - kmckinnon@sponne.org.uk

8EH- Miss Hearty - eharty@sponne.org.uk

8CRS- Mr Smith - csmith@sponne.org.uk
8AMG- Mr McGrory - amcgrory@sponne.org.uk
8PL- Mr Lopes - plopes@sponne.org.uk
8STW- Ms Watts - swatts@sponne.org.uk

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