Okehampton College

A school within The Dartmoor Federation

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Principal: MR DERRICK BRETT

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Dear Parents and Carers

The college, alongside all Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust schools, will be changing its Management Information System (MIS) from Capita SIMS to Arbor. This is a big change but one that should have a minimal effect on parents and students.

Where will parents see a difference?

The major change for parents of students at Okehampton College will be that after the Easter holidays we will no longer ask you to use SIMS Parent to check the information that we hold on your child. We will be replacing SIMS Parent with the [Arbor Parent Portal] or the [Arbor App] (you can use the same login for both) and this will be your easiest way of telling us about changes to contact details or a change of address. The portal will not be available until mid-May so in the interim we would ask you to send any information that will need updating to datacheck@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk.

It is recommended that the first time you login to the parent portal you do so on a laptop or desktop computer, mobile devices may not allow you to accept the Terms and Conditions.

Although initially we will not be using all the features of the parent portal/app we do plan to use Arbor to distribute student assessment data and, over time, integrate other areas to allow parents to use their Arbor login to its fullest potential.

What about ClassCharts?

Parent and student engagement with [ClassCharts] has been vital over the last 12 months and for the foreseeable future we will continue to use ClassCharts to provide access to home learning, behaviour logs, and the Wellbeing module. Attendance information will be available from both ClassCharts and your Arbor login.

What about the School Gateway?

Initially we will continue to use the [School Gateway] for payments but if we decide to move this function to Arbor we will provide more details about any change closer to the time. The change of MIS means that you will see a new school added to your SchoolGateway app. Your balance may not transfer immediately but for the first week back we will give students an overdraft that will allow them to continue to use the cashless catering system while we transfer any outstanding credit. You will not be able to top up the cashless catering purse from the 9th of April, however this function will be available again by Monday the 26th of April.

Where can I find more information?

There is a quick introduction to Arbor on the [college website] as well as pages for [troubleshooting login issues] and [FAQs].

You can also find [parent guides] on the Arbor website, but please be aware that we are not using all of the services referenced there. Articles that might be most useful are [Introduction to the Arbor App Usage Guide For Guardians], [The Arbor App Usage Guide], [Parent Portal quick introduction], [Student Profile Overview], and [How to add contacts for your child].