



22nd October 2020

Dear All,

As we approach the end of the first half-term of full reopening, I wanted to write to you all to say thank you for the many kind words of welcome and encouragement I have received. I already feel completely a part of the academy community, and look forward to the coming months and years when we will develop and improve, so that all our students receive the very best education and life chances.

If you ask your children about any changes they have noticed this year, they may mention that there has been an increased focus on politeness. I have insisted that students should reply to a teacher using 'sir' or 'miss', as well as the basic expectation that when the teacher is addressing the class there should be silence. In addition to this, we will be smiling and greeting each other as we meet each other with a 'good morning' or 'good afternoon' salutation. Although all these things seem quite insignificant, together they will promote the good behaviours required to succeed in society.

As an extension to this, next half-term we will be starting an increased focus on our academy uniform. I attach the current uniform guide that you will have been issued with prior to your child attending the academy, which is also available on the academy website. There are concerns that many students are failing to adhere to the uniform code, and we will start to address these following the break. Whilst we will be pointing out to students where their dress does not conform, we will not be issuing sanctions until Spring term, as we realise that new uniform may need to be purchased, and are mindful of the cost implication. Important considerations are the length and material of a skirt, school shoes, and material and fit of school trousers. If you are unsure as to whether your child's uniform is compliant, please ask them to raise the question with a member of staff who can clarify it for you.

Students are coping well with the increased restrictions on academy life imposed due to COVID, but are understandably getting restless within the academy day. We have recently seen an increase of visits to First Aid to address minor injuries that have happened as a result of playing games at social time that include contact with other students. I would appreciate it if you could reiterate the need for children to distance from each other during break and lunch.

I hope this letter finds you and your loved ones in good health. I also wish you all an enjoyable and relaxing half-term break.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Hogg'.

Lesley Hogg
Principal