



18 October 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

## **Parental Engagement Event, Sixth Form Open Evening Postponement, Year 7 and Year 10 SEND Reviews, Year 11 and Year 13 Reports, Football National Cup Victories, Paediatric Referrals, Nurturing Emotional Health and Wellbeing Courses**

Welcome to my end of week update letter.

Half term is upon us, and it has been a busy, but fruitful few weeks. The Academy has looked and felt very strong in its practice since we returned in September, and I am pleased to report that behaviour on site has been outstanding. To that end, we have a parent engagement event into the new half term that we wish to invite you to in order for you to see us at work and play during working hours – please see below for sign up details. That said, my local colleagues at Costa have asked that our youngsters do not just sit in there without buying anything. There have been some reports of rudeness from those wearing my badge when politely asked to make a purchase or sit elsewhere. I would hope this serves as a polite warning to those students to represent us a little better in future.

### **Parental Engagement Event**

Thank you to all parents in Year 7, 10 and 12 who have engaged with our parent surveys at tutor evenings over the past fortnight. The feedback has been really helpful. We will continue to run surveys at all evening parent events through the academic year. However, if you would like to come and join us for a look around the campus, please sign up using the attached link <https://forms.office.com/e/dMqFyuFpFa>.

### **Sixth Form Open Evening postponement**

I have decided to postpone this event until after Christmas and will publish a new date in due course. This is desperately unfortunate and is simply because of current government policy so soon after the election. I attended a national event on Tuesday in London to ascertain how the new government will approach the post-16 qualifications landscape in the short term given that the old government intended to defund some BTEC qualifications and other vocationals. It is clear that their ongoing curriculum and assessment review will propose a longer-term strategy, but it also means that there is significant confusion and inertia in the short term around some course combinations and whether it will be possible to study more than one vocational qualification of some types.

In short, we need some more time to plan and to do so off the back of formal announcements from HMG. What is clear is that we will offer our usual full suite of A level courses and we will offer some new and more established vocational courses too, but until the government is clear around the role of AAQ qualifications we can't publish our formal offer.

Lastly, and intended as a support measure for any students wishing to stay on or join us in Year 12, we will attempt to recruit to courses and then write our option blocks afterwards. This is an unusual move but allows us the greatest flexibility to meet the needs of our youngsters in the most bespoke form. Please don't shoot the messenger – yet again, government strikes.....

### **Year 7 and Year 10 SEND Reviews**

Thank you to those parents in Year 7 and Year 10 who have accepted invitations for SEND reviews. If you haven't yet made an appointment and wish to do so, please contact [SEND@srpa.co.uk](mailto:SEND@srpa.co.uk).

### **Year 11 and Year 13 Reports**

Year 11 reports will be published before the end of the week. Year 13 reports will follow directly after half term.

### **Football National Cup Victories**

Our Year 7 football team ran out 3-0 winners versus The King's School, Grantham earlier this week in the first round. It is always pleasing to beat extremely strong opposition, so very well done to everyone involved.

This follows on from our Year 8 football team beating Priory Ruskin Academy 7-0 in the same competition. I look forward to our youngsters having fun in the later rounds and representing us well.

### **Paediatric Referrals**

We are receiving a large number of enquiries about the status of the above, especially for those referrals we have submitted around Easter.

Often, parents believe we have some sway over the process and the lengthy wait is due to our inefficiency, leading to some anger vented in our direction. However, schools are simply the vehicle for collation of evidence and submission of the referral. Thereafter, we only have the same contact details parents will have in order to enquire as to where in the queue you may be and we are not responsible for any contact with the NHS after submission. Should you have any enquiries in this regard, please direct them to the appropriate NHS contact.

### **Nurturing Emotional Health and Wellbeing Courses**

Lincolnshire County Council has partnered with the Solihull Approach to offer free access to expertly designed online courses for parents, carers, grandparents and teens living in the region.



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In wishing you a restful half term break I will sign off with the words of author Alan Cohen, who said “There is virtue in work and there is virtue in rest. Use both and overlook neither.”

My staff will return on Monday 28 October 2024 for In-Service Training. As a result, we look forward to seeing our students on the morning of Tuesday 29 October 2024.

Yours faithfully



**Mr D Hardy**  
**Headmaster**



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