

10th September 2021



Dear Families,

At the start of a new academic year there is always a sense of change. In the coming year, more than any other, we hope that this will mean a return to normality for schools and for our students. As a school we are determined to ensure that in the year ahead, not only do we enrich our student's time in school with the best standards of curriculum and the highest expectations, but we also do all we can to ensure their wellbeing is front and centre of our efforts.

My assembly to students this week has focussed on the decisions we make in life and how they affect what we do each day. I spoke to students about the need for a healthy lifestyle not only in what we eat but also in what we do; I talked to students about what a 'healthy school diet' may look like in order to make sure that they find the strength of character and the perseverance to build the bright future we want for them.

I would also like to take this opportunity to talk about what has been lost in the last few years, our students have missed out on so many opportunities to go on educational visits and residential, we have also had two years of students not doing work experience in years 10 and 12 as well as many extra-curricular clubs that have been lost, and of course, although we have been in your homes through our online school we have missed out on regular parents' evenings to inform you of your child's contributions in and out of the classroom. It is my highest priority to put these things right this year and I look forward to giving families further updates on all the above very soon.

Families should be aware that next week we return to a normal school day with all students arriving in their classrooms for an 8:30 start. To enable this, students should arrive to school between 8:00am to 8:20am at which point we will begin to allow students to enter the building, all students will now finish their school day at 3.00pm. I know our Heads of Year are in regular contact with you around expectations for each year group and especially regarding uniform, this will be a key part of our narrative around students in terms of our expectations and I ask that families support us in ensuring that their child's uniform is correct each day.



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**Learning Together;
Achieving Forever**

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Lastly, I would like to make families aware of some excellent new appointments at school in key leadership positions, the majority of which have purposefully been filled with our existing staff and this reflects the strength and experience of our staff body. At senior team Mr Desanges, Mr Lynch, Mr Vallance have been promoted to Assistant Principals, Ms Mintrim and Mr Anderson also join senior team in temporary roles for the coming year. In Mr Booth's temporary absence we welcome Mr Ross to the school as Deputy Principal, Mr Ross is a highly experience senior leader who has held various roles in and out of other Oasis Academies and we are delighted he joins us on an interim basis. In middle leadership, Mr Bell is our new head of year 12, Mr Bosela is now our head of year 8, we also welcome Mr Adolphe as an experience head of department to our lead our PE department. I am delighted at the appointments and excited for the experience and breadth of depth that each of these leaders brings to our school.

Lastly, I would like to welcome our new year 7 and year 12 students to the academy, they have made a fantastic start to their time in their new phases and we are looking forward to them growing into excellent Shirley Park students who truly love learning, care for their community and build a bright future.

Sincerely,



Saqib Chaudhri

Principal, Secondary phase & Sixth Form



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