



Outwood Academy Shafton

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Academy Principal & Chief Executive Sir Michael Wilkins

Executive Principal: Mrs Julie Slater

Principal: Mrs Cara Ackroyd

12 July 2016

Dear Parents/ Carers,

It is with great excitement for the future that I write to you for the first time as Principal at Outwood Academy Shafton.

We have had an incredible summer term with lots to celebrate and to be proud of. After a brilliant exam series, our Y11 left us in style at our Prom Breakfast event when 1000 students gathered to welcome them home and to say goodbyes. We look forward to celebrating with them again in August with what will certainly be the best set of exam results that our Academy has ever achieved. There have been a huge number of other highlights this term: the Grand Opening of our new Learning Resource Centre and Library, Y8 Graduations, Y5 and Y6 transition events, becoming Barnsley Schools' Athletics Champions for the first time in history and our Y8 Trip to Paris, to name just a few. There have also been a huge number of very personal achievements, both in and out of the Academy, for some of our students. We have a lot of talent to celebrate! We thank our families for the good news stories that they regularly share with us. Finally, after two years in the making, our Academy has also successfully been awarded the Leading Parent Partnership Award in recognition of the work that we do with our families and our community. Special thanks for this go to Ms Kate Wragg and our brilliant Parent Voice Group - who are always seeking new members, so please get in touch if you are interested.

Please find enclosed a copy of your son/daughter's final Praising Stars report of the year- a record 2500 E1 grades across the Academy, representing how hard our students are working and showing their commitment to learning and succeeding. Overleaf you will find, for your information, a list of key dates for the next academic year which I hope that you will find useful. Please keep checking our website and follow us on Twitter @outwoodshafton for the most up to date information throughout the year.

We continue to have the highest expectations for our students' conduct and their appearance. A reminder, please, that when preparing to come back in September we only permit uniform items purchased from our uniform supplier - Trutex. I would also draw your attention to our policy on jewellery: a wrist watch is the only permitted item of jewellery; and on make-up: the policy says "discrete": this means a small amount of concealer or foundation which we hope will help to support teenagers who may feel self-conscious about their skin, no other make-up items are allowed to be worn.

When purchasing shoes for school, please remember that these should be plain, black leather and that no boots are allowed. If you would like us to check any item before you purchase then we are open during the holidays. All students must carry a bag and a planner. Planners must be kept clean and free from graffiti. From September, we will be having a big drive on written standards in students' books and, as such, we will expect students to carry a pen, pencil and a ruler as a minimum expectation. We will be issuing C4 detentions where a student does not have equipment with them. To help with this, the Academy will purchase each of these items to get students started on the first day back in September. Of course, you are welcome to purchase additional stationery items too should you wish but this is not expected.

The Academy will re-open to students on Tuesday 6th September. Y7 and Y11 will start at 8.25am and Y8, Y9 and Y10 will start at 10.30am.

Summer holidays are a special time for families and a chance for our young people to relax, recharge and have fun. Whatever you have planned, home or away, I wish you a very happy and a very safe summer on behalf of all of the staff here at Outwood Academy Shafton.

Yours sincerely,

Cara Ackroyd
Principal

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