

## **Parent/ Carer Communication 13.9.24**

Dear Parents/ Carers,

It's been a positive first week of the new year, with lots to celebrate but also lots to learn from and develop further as we move forward.

The students have dealt remarkably well with the many changes that have come their way this week, from meeting new staff to timetable changes, different rooms and new activities. This has been great to see.

### **Secondary Timetables**

A specific well done to our secondary students. For most of our secondary students there has been a new subject specific timetable and more moving around the building. Although this enables us to make better use of our specialist resources and teaching by our specialist teachers, we know change can be difficult, but our students have worked well, with the support of a great staff team, to adapt and get a great start to their learning.

### **Student Absence**

Can we please remind you that if your child is ill and unable to come to school, please do not communicate this using Dojo, but contact the office directly. It is essential that we know what is going on and where children are on any given day.

### **Transitions for students**

As you will know, transition is potentially the toughest part of the day for our students and is something that takes a period of time to manage effectively. This is because change can heighten emotion and temporarily make students feel dysregulated, in crisis, heading into crisis or be in the process of recovering. As such we would remind parents that removing the audience and minimising interaction is / can be effective. If you see a student in crisis or are worried about a student, please inform the nearest member of staff.

We have clear plans in place to ensure a long-term positive outcome for students who are struggling, but positive change takes time to establish.

### **Behaviours that challenge**

We are in the process of reviewing and updating all student support and behaviour plans. As such there has been a tightening up on challenging behaviours displayed by students, but it is in a de-escalatory way and for a longer-term benefit on accessing learning and learning effective behaviours. To support this process, we are actively working with families. Further specific information will follow about this.

### **Improving the corridor environment**

We are looking to improve the corridor environment and to conduct school council meetings with a view to sharing a new vision and ethos for all stakeholders. We will update you on this more as it develops.

### **Key dates**

Given all the changes – we are still in the process of finalising key dates for the term. This information will be sent out in the first part of next week.

We hope you all have a great weekend and very much look forward to welcoming you back to school next week.

Matt Sambrook

Headteacher