

1st June 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

#### **Term reflections**

It has been a busy and productive term at the Academy, I thank all families for their continued support.

As we look to the new term, I would like to highlight the following reminders/updates:

#### **Summer series 2022 examinations**

We have now started the examination season for both Year 11 and Sixth Form. Currently these are being attended well and attitudes towards them are on the whole positive. Can I please remind you to encourage your son/daughter to attend the academy on time no later than 8:25 am . We can accommodate students earlier if that helps from 8:10 am for breakfast. We also start every examination with a briefing from the subject lead which informs the candidates of the important items for that paper. Currently all Sixth Form and Year 11 must attend all day every day unless there are agreed special arrangements.

# Security

If you have recently visited the academy, you will have seen a new fence and gate system on the Minster campus. This has ensured we are a more secure site and we can more easily monitor the exits and entrance. As of Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> June, all visitors must park their cars in the drop off area and use the intercom system to speak to reception where they will be able to assist you with your enquiry. All disabled drivers will clearly be able to drive up to reception. All students must obtain a pass from reception before being able to be collected.

### **Summer weather**

As we hopefully will be experiencing some hot weather in the coming weeks, I would like to be clear on the expectation of uniform. All students must be in full academy uniform (including blazer) when arriving in the morning. If the day's temperature looks to be high, I will decide around students being able to take their ties off and not having to wear their blazer (shirt sleeve order) leaving just their shirt /blouse. However, the next morning they must return in full academy uniform.

.../continued

**Executive Principal – Mr A Booth** 

Minster Campus: Minster Road, Minster-on-Sea, ME12 3JQ Sheerness Campus: Marine Parade, Sheerness, Kent, ME12 2BE

Tel. 01795 873 591

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#### **Skirts**

At Oasis Academy Isle of Sheppey, we expect our academy's uniform to reflect a professional appearance; the guidelines for acceptable uniform are published on our website. We have recently become aware that some students are wearing skirts that do not meet the expected standards. To clarify, skirts should be plain black, non-stretch material and of a suitable length for a school setting. Our guidance is in the process of being updated for September to recommend skirts reach the knee as an absolute minimum. From September, if a skirt is not to the knee, it is an inappropriate skirt for school. If choosing to wear trousers instead of a skirt, please note that jeggings, skinny jeans, wet-look or lacquered trousers are not appropriate for a professional environment. While we appreciate the sensitivity involved in discussing the issue of skirt length, we at Oasis are eager to have your support in promoting an academy with strong professional values.

## AirPods/Earphones

Over the past few weeks, we have noticed an increase in the number of students who are wearing headphones and AirPods. We are seeing these items while students walk to and from class, and in some instances, during class without the teacher's permission. AirPods, for example, are being worn by students with long hair and out of view of the teacher. While we understand everyone has a favourite song, we have a responsibility to ensure our students are fully engaged in their learning activities.

As a reminder, students are not permitted to wear headphones, AirPods or ear buds at any time during the academy day. If seen or heard by a member of staff, the student will be asked for them and they will be kept securely in reception for the parent/carer to collect after the academy day finishes refusal to do this will result in a possible suspension.

# Mobile phones

As you are aware mobile phones are not allowed on either academy site and most definitely should not be taken out during your son/daughter's time in the academy. Our policy makes it clear if mobile phones are seen or heard the student will be asked for their phone and it will then be kept securely for the parent/carer to collect after the academy day finishes; refusal to do this will result in a possible suspension. Some families are phoning students during the day. Could I ask please to respect the academy's expectation of no mobile phones; if there is a need to discuss something with your son/daughter, which is urgent or necessary, telephone the main academy line on the following number 01795 873591 - or utilise the MCAS app where members of our staff will be able to assist.

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I hope you are enjoying some time together with family and friends over half term and look forward to welcoming back all students on Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> June, with normal academy timings.

Yours sincerely,

Mr A Booth

**Executive Principal** 

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