

February 2017

Dear Parent / Carer

### **Parental Update**

Thank you to parents who made contact following the January parents' letter. It was encouraging to know that the parent voice was overwhelmingly positive about the changes proposed; I am very warmed by level of support received from parents – thank you. We will be contacting parents who are keen to join our forums very soon.

Since writing the January update we have continued to raise standards across the school and have implemented a number of changes outlined previously. On Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February students will receive their new timetables and embark on the new 5 period day. No changes have been made to start or finish times of the school day.

This week we welcomed OFSTED into the college and await their report in the coming weeks. OFSTED provide a significant milestone in the college's history and will enable us to continue raising standards with focus, drive and determination. The Improvements, that have been put in place and are being put in place were recognised over the course of the inspection.

Last week we invited an external Safeguarding consultant to review our safeguarding procedures, as I want to be able to reassure all parents that safeguarding is our number 1 priority. This was a positive experience, however the report has highlighted a need to consider how students enter and exit the college. Parents will be aware that the site currently has three entry / exit points for parents and staff. Parents are also able to drop off and pick up in cars at these points.

In order to satisfy the national guidelines relating to safeguarding children we are required to reduce the number of entry / exit points. To comply with this the following changes will take affect from Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February.

- Students will enter and exit the college from Tickleford Drive and Winchfield Close only.
- Hurst Green Close/Leisure Centre gate will now remain closed at all times.
- Winchfield Gate will be closed to all students 0830.
- Tickleford Road gates will only be open to pedestrians from 08:10 to 08:30.
- There will be no vehicular access to the college between 08:10 – 8:30 each day.
- Parents wishing to drop children off need to do so outside the college gates.

I appreciate that these changes may result in some slight inconvenience; however, I am sure you will understand the necessity of this move in order to protect our young people.

Please be aware that students need to be on site before 08:25 to avoid being late each day.

Yours faithfully

N S Giles