



Padgate Academy

Insall Road, Warrington WA2 0LN

Telephone: 01925 822 632

E-mail: info@padgateacademy.co.uk

Principal: Mrs M Barclay Bsc (Hons) NPQH

Our ref: MBA/MSI

9th October 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

A special welcome to parents of our Year 7 students who are new to Padgate Academy. As parents of youngsters in Years 8 to 11 will confirm, the first year at secondary school will go extremely quickly and before you realise it, your sons/daughters will be enjoying their Year 11 Prom.

All parents can be assured that the staff will do their very best to ensure each and every child feels safe, makes academic and social progress, and is known to staff. We want all children to experience the joy of success in and out of the classroom and to enjoy and achieve in equal measure.

As ever, it has been a busy and exiting half term at the academy with a great deal to celebrate.

GCSE success

The Academy is celebrating our best ever GCSE results with significant improvements across every measure. We are waiting for the official Progress 8 figures to be published, but we are pleased to announce that we are the most improved school in Warrington. We are not complacent, and are already working hard with the current Year 11 students to improve results even further as part of our ambition to be one of the best schools in the country.

£1.83million building programme

As part of our move to TCAT we were successful in being awarded £1.83million to refurbish some areas of the school. We received the official go ahead in July and since then it has been full steam ahead to complete the works by the March deadline. Amongst some of the work to improve the infrastructure of the academy we are delighted to announce that money will be spent on a full refurbishment of 2 laboratories, the canteen and the main school block to improve the learning environment. It is most pleasing to know that the works will directly benefit students in the academy now, giving them access to the best quality classrooms and facilities. As you can imagine, it is very busy but we are working hard to limit any disruption to the day to day running of the academy.

Uniform

As part of our drive to continually raise standards, I would like to request your full support in ensuring that your child attends school punctually every day, and that they are fully equipped and prepared for the day ahead. In particular I would ask that our students wear their academy uniform with pride at all times. Shoes should be black leather, with no training shoes or canvas material permitted. For health and safety reasons, the only jewellery permitted as part of the academy uniform is a wristwatch and facial piercings of any sort are not permitted to be worn.

WWW.PADGATEACADEMY.CO.UK



PART OF THE CHALLENGE ACADEMY TRUST | NURTURE | CHALLENGE | ACHIEVE
THE CHALLENGE ACADEMY TRUST C/O PRIESTLEY COLLEGE, LOUSHERS LN, WARRINGTON WA4 6RD. COMPANY#: 10689247 VAT#: 296154966

Mobile phones

One key objective for the academy continues to be improved student progress and attainment, and I therefore wish to focus on all aspects associated with learning, eliminating disruption and disturbances. One particular distraction to learning is the use of mobile phones. I would like to request the support of parents and carers in reminding their child that they are not allowed in the academy during the school day. Students who are seen using a mobile phone during this time will have it confiscated and stored safely for parents to collect at their convenience.

Holidays in term time

I must also draw your attention to important amendments to legislation surrounding holidays in term time.

Since September 2013, the new law does not give any entitlement to parents to take their child on holiday during term time. Any applications for leave of absence must be in exceptional circumstances and as Principal, I must be satisfied that the circumstances warrant the granting of leave. Parents can be fined by the Local Authority for taking their child on holiday during term time without consent from the school.

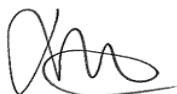
As an academy, we fully appreciate the financial difficulties that some parents face when booking holidays, particularly during school holidays. However, there is an expectation that all schools introduce firm policies and stringent checks to ensure that there is a significant reduction in the number of absences during term time.

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the academy to thank you for your full support in this matter by not taking your child out of school during term time.

On a personal note, I would like to make you aware that I will be taking a short maternity leave during next half term, returning back to work on 6th January 2020. During this time the academy will be led by Mr Syed (Vice Principal) and the Senior Leadership Team who will be supported by Mr Moorcroft (Executive Head at Beamont Collegiate Academy and TCAT School Improvement lead). As ever, should you have any questions or concerns, your child's Head of Learning would be your first point of contact.

Finally, I would like to thank you for your continued support and involvement as we work together to secure the best outcomes for all our young people.

Yours sincerely



Mrs M Barclay
Principal

WWW.PADGATEACADEMY.CO.UK



WWW.PADGATEACADEMY.CO.UK



PART OF THE CHALLENGE ACADEMY TRUST | NURTURE | CHALLENGE | ACHIEVE
THE CHALLENGE ACADEMY TRUST C/O PRIESTLEY COLLEGE, LOUSHERS LN, WARRINGTON WA4 6RD. COMPANY#: 10689247 VAT#: 296154966
