



Winterton Community Academy

Newport Drive, Winterton, Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire, DN15 9QD

Telephone: (01724) 732777 Fax: (01724) 733051

email: reception@wintertoncommunityacademy.co.uk

Headteacher – Mr K Rowlands

Ref:o/KRParLet/2019-20/Febhalfterm/jsn

13th February 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the half-way point in the school year I felt it was an opportune time to write to you and update you on how things are progressing within the academy.

It was my intention to try and write to you on a weekly basis and unfortunately I have not achieved that aim so far. Therefore, I will look to improve on this in the second half of the academic year with more regular communication.

I would like to start by saying thank you to all of our parents for their feedback during the recent OFSTED inspection and for the support and faith you have shown in the school. Whilst I am not entitled to share the outcome of the inspection at this stage, I will be delighted to write to you shortly after half-term with further information and feedback.

We certainly learnt a lot from the 2 days and the feedback can only be helpful in our continuing development as we remain committed to giving your sons and daughters the very best education, experiences and opportunities.

This term, we have given great thought to the things that we perceive matter most in ensuring that we are a great school. We have discussed aspects of uniform and appearances with our students and will continue to develop an approach that we feel is sensible and supportive towards allowing our young people to be themselves.

I have communicated with our pupils this week in relation to tightening up on our mobile phone policy after it was apparent that some students were not following our expectations. As a result, I have made it clear that any phone which is confiscated in school will now only be returned to a parent upon collection at our reception. We had tried to take a softer approach with our students, allowing them to collect them with a telephone call home but unfortunately, this has failed to act as a suitable deterrent for some.

In addition, we have taken the decision to include 'smart-watches' within the same policy as mobile phones. The technology available through such a device means that they are the equivalent of a mobile phone and are therefore equally inappropriate in school. Please ask that your child does not wear a 'smart-watch' to school, which by definition is any watch which connects to another device or has the technology to send / receive media. I thank you for your understanding on this matter.

Each half-term, we host a fantastic and hugely successful rewards assembly within the school. These assemblies have been held in high regard by the majority of our students and have been a fantastic opportunity to celebrate success and reward the efforts of our students. Due to this half-term being shorter, we have agreed to have the assembly after half-term when the students return. The reward and recognition lottery is a lovely way to give students a chance to win some great prizes, the more reward points they have, the more opportunities they have to win... good luck to everyone.

Please be reminded that mock examinations start on the week commencing 24th February for Year 10 and Year 11 students. They will have their examination timetables already, please support them in organising a suitable revision schedule and advise them that a little and often, revising the things they are less secure in is the best way forward.

Finally, after half-term, we will engage our pupils and parents in a much deeper feedback survey, designed to help us engage further with you and understand where we can continue to improve. Please do take the time to complete this, even if you completed the recent OFSTED survey, as the questions are much deeper and the quality of feedback that we will generate will be significantly richer as a result.

I hope you all have a lovely half-term and for those lucky enough to be on the ski-trip, have a safe and pleasant trip.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Mr Rowlands', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Mr Rowlands
Headteacher