



Winterton Community Academy

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

Telephone: (01724) 732777

email: reception@wintertonca.com

Headteacher – Mr K Rowlands

Ref: KR/ AW/ Feb

6th February, 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I writing to provide you with an update on a number of school related matters as we approach the midway point in the academic year. In addition, I am conscious that prior to the Christmas break, we conducted a comprehensive stake-holder survey, the results of which are now in and I will write to you again shortly with a detailed account of the results.

At Easter, we will be saying good-bye to two members of staff; Mrs Jones (MFL) and Miss Romaniw (English) will be leaving to start new posts. I am sure you will join me in saying thank you and good luck in their respective roles.

We are working to recruit suitable replacements in the classroom. We have recruited internally to cover their leadership responsibilities and therefore I am delighted to announce that Miss Dennison has been successful in her application to become the Head of English, Mrs Hawley will be taking the responsibility for the Head of MFL and Miss Monteith has been appointed as an Assistant Headteacher with responsibility for Teaching and Learning.

I am very excited for all three of these appointments. They have each demonstrated themselves to be exceptional members of staff and I am confident they will contribute significantly to the future success of the school.

Safeguarding

We have recently had a couple of occasions where it has been necessary to confiscate contraband items from pupils within the school. Whilst both instances have been fairly innocuous and more a result of naive choices as opposed to any element of malice, it does highlight the possible risks.

One item was a craft knife and the other, a BB gun. I would like to assure you that in both instances, parents have been contacted and we have liaised appropriately with the police, taking the necessary steps to ensure that there was no greater risk. We have conducted the appropriate risk assessments to ensure that all children and staff are safe.

However, in both instances, the decision to bring inappropriate items into school has increased the level of risk and placed us in a position where we are required to make decisions as to whether it is appropriate for those pupils to be allowed to attend our school. Please be advised that any pupil found to bring such items that may be considered to be used as a weapon, then place themselves at a risk of a permanent exclusion from the school.

Please be vigilant and where possible, have an interest and an awareness as to what items your child is carrying in their school bags / blazers.

In addition, we have been made aware of a former pupil of the school who has allegedly been seen in the park carrying what was described as a highly dangerous knife. Whilst this is an out of school allegation, it does again highlight the dangers and risks and I feel it is appropriate to make you aware and ask that you and your children remain vigilant. We continue to cooperate with the police and this is being treated as a criminal offence.

Within school, we will engage in some additional activities to highlight the dangers and risks associated with knife crime and also the risks of exposure to, and the buying selling of drugs.

We are conscious that our community, like so many others, is vulnerable to the risks of drugs, weapons and gang related crimes. We will remain vigilant and operate a zero-tolerance approach. Any pupils engaged in such illegal activities will be recommended for a permanent exclusion.

Our school and our wider communities, are warm, loving and welcoming places to be and we will do everything necessary to ensure that they stay that way.

If you have any concerns, or further information relating to any of the above, please contact the school and ask to speak to Mrs Daveran (Designated Safeguarding Lead) for further assistance.

Thank you as always for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,

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

Mr Rowlands