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Where we aspire, nurture, personalise,
engage and promote success

9th July 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

Having arrived at the end of the school year, we can only reflect on the challenges that we have faced. It has been a massive effort for all of us, to navigate our way through the Covid 19 pandemic. I appreciate the challenges faced by the whole of our school community, not least parents, having to supervise their children through home learning. Our online learning programme has continued to prove successful, with engagement levels higher than schools nationally. Thank you all for your valuable support with this.

It has been a learning curve for all of us, often having to react to the latest advice in very short time frames. At times it has been very challenging and informing students, parents and carers of the need to close bubbles has been heartbreaking at times. This has never sat well with me, but we have always had to follow government guidance throughout. I look forward to school returning to something more normal next term.

I have taken a conscious decision to close the school during the summer break. I am keen for students, teachers, leaders and support staff to get a well-deserved break during this time. It is important for everyone to recharge and rest before we reopen in August. Site improvement works will continue over the summer break, the site staff will be extremely busy during this period, ensuring that our learning areas are of the highest quality.

As we say goodbye to a number of valued and trusted colleagues, we look forward to expanding our provision in year 7, implementing a 3-form entry for the first time in our history, numbers in Post 16 also continue to grow. Staffing changes for next year include Miss Glinka becoming Deputy Head Teacher with responsibility for Quality of Education. Mrs Ryman has become Assistant Head Teacher with responsibility for teaching and learning and Mrs Mears has been appointed as our Compass Coordinator. All of these appointments will help the school to add to our already strong offer.

Transition has been very effective for our existing students, moving up into their new classes. I can confidently state that our year 11 students have settled very quickly into life at Post 16.

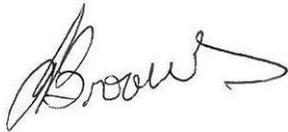


Other year groups also had opportunities to meet their new tutor teams and teachers. Our new arrivals have not been able to complete their transition due to government guidelines. However, it is our intention to use the first week back to ensure that these students receive a full transition into year 7.

Best of luck to all of those students who are leaving us for pastures new. I am very much aware that some students have been unable to say their goodbyes due to having to self-isolate and the closing of bubbles. We are planning an awards ceremony in the autumn term, where all leavers will be invited back to say a proper goodbye to their friends and staff. We have also organised some activities for those students who missed their rewards day. These will also take place early next term.

Please have a wonderful and well-deserved break and we look forward to you all on Wednesday 25th August.

Kinds regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jason Brooks', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jason Brooks
Headteacher