

12th September 2016

Dear Parents/Carers,

Following on from our best exam results ever and our overall performance being above the national standard, I am pleased to say that our students and staff have all settled well into the new school year. As always we are straight into ensuring that students are focussed on their studies in order to achieve what is required of them. This has included a number of year groups taking tests to accurately record their levels in order to ensure that progress is consistent throughout the year.

A reminder from our Behaviour Policy that good behaviour and full attendance enables high standards of learning to be achieved. We insist on good behaviour all of the time, we also expect full attendance and excellent punctuality at the start of the day, 8.30am, and for each lesson. Our attendance team along with the Local Authority attendance team will deal with any students who are not in the Academy each day. If you do need to report a student absence then please do so on 0121 568 3440

Every student has a student planner that contains all of the key information they need each day and it will be checked by staff many times during the school day. Please ensure that your child always has their planner with them, take time to have a look at it with them and sign it when required.

Enclosed is an important document for you to keep for reference giving details of our term dates and inset days (inset days students are not required to attend the academy). On the reverse are details of parents' evening dates and some Wednesday morning dates when students are not required to attend until 9.45am. All of this information is available on our website www.graceacademy.org.uk selecting the GA Darlaston site)

It is obviously very important that we have up to date medical information and contact information for your child. Should you need to provide updated medical or contact information then please collect a form from reception.

Finally I need to mention taking students out of the Academy during term time for holidays. We have to comply with Government guidelines and therefore I cannot authorise students to be away from their lessons during term time.

Should you have any queries on the information please contact your child's Head of Year here at the Academy in the first instance.

I look forward to seeing you all at our events throughout the year.

Yours sincerely,



Carl Salt - Principal