

Educate for life

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are keeping well, and that last week's update was helpful in further explaining why our new policies were introduced and how they are already making a difference in key areas we were seeking to improve.

It is encouraging that since my last letter on Friday, we have continued to see positive trends in punctuality and lesson engagement, and a reduction in internal truancy and safeguarding concerns. This all helps to build strong routines for our students in a calm, safe and orderly environment where they can focus on learning.

I am also pleased that adjustments we have made to policies following recent feedback, including further improvements to the canteen overflow space and additional staff on toilet duty, as well as additional toilets being opened at break and lunchtime, have further enhanced daily experiences for students.

Over the course of the week we have continued to take time to meet and speak with students and families, and I am grateful for the conversations and feedback we have shared together. Whilst we know not everyone will agree with every change, and there will always be things we can improve, it has been positive to see a shift in the feedback we are receiving, with more students and families recognising the rationale and benefits for their children first-hand.

Reflecting on the past month together, I know how important it is to keep communication open and to work in partnership with you as we pursue our shared goal of delivering the best possible educational opportunities for all. From next week, I will therefore be launching a weekly Principal's Update - a short newsletter which will enable me to share directly with you some of the key developments and highlights taking place across our academy.

As a separate but exciting update, you will recall my update in the summer term about nearby Hunnyhill Primary School's plans to join Ormiston Academies Trust. I am delighted to confirm that as of yesterday the school has officially joined and will be known as Hunnyhill Ormiston Academy.

We are proud to be part of the Ormiston family - a partnership which has delivered significant benefits for our students, staff and wider community over many years. Hunnyhill's joining strengthens the relationship between our schools, creating opportunities for closer collaboration, sharing expertise and developing enrichment activities that will benefit both communities.

This is an exciting new chapter for our community, and I look forward to keeping you updated on the opportunities this enhanced partnership will bring. In the meantime, do look out for my first weekly newsletter next week, and if you have any wider questions please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Thank you for your support and collaboration.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs Rachel Kitley
Principal