

18th October 2017



Dear Parent/Carer

As we approach the end of the first term, I hope your son/daughter has settled back into the Academy. I have been pleased with the start of term and it was great to see so many students helping at our recent open evenings for prospective new students.

I am delighted to announce the League of Excellence has begun for all students. This is an initiative to celebrate the success of students in each year group, based upon excellent behaviour, attitude and attendance. The Academy League display is proudly positioned in the reception area, showing our top 30 students in each year. I hope that all students aspire to see their names displayed - please do ask them about it!

It is important that, as we approach the winter months, you have discussed bad weather plans with your child. At Longfield we have a considerable number of students travelling by coach/bus to the Academy. Whilst it is rare that the Academy is shut due to bad weather, we are beholden to the coach companies being able to travel safely, so the decision to remain open is often guided by the coach companies. My dedicated staff strive to get into the Academy so that those students who walk into school can remain, but we must always adhere to safe ratios of teachers to children. The decision to close is never taken lightly and all other options are considered in advance, but I ask that you discuss with your child a "plan B" if we experience poor winter conditions.

By now, I hope you are aware of who your child's form tutor is, and you have been able to make contact with them or the College leadership team with any questions. We have recently begun using a new online information system and whilst this is being installed and checked, the parent portal is unavailable. Shortly after the October holiday, you will be issued with new login details to our improved system, so that once again you will be able to access reports and letters online. Can I also remind parents that if your contact details change, we are made aware immediately so that your records can be updated.

Best wishes



Alex O'Donnell
Principal