

18<sup>th</sup> October 2017



Dear Parent/Carer

As we approach the end of the first term, I hope your son/daughter has settled into the Academy and feels part of our community. I have been pleased with the start of term and it was great to see so many of year 7s helping at our recent open evenings for prospective new students.

I am delighted to announce the League of Excellence has begun for year 7 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.

I hope that the start of term has been smooth for your son/daughter, and that you are beginning to familiarise yourself with our procedures. 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 will be holding a "Settling In" Event on 4th December, details to follow shortly, and I hope you will be able to join us to meet some of our staff and see the excellent work that your child has completed since joining us.

Yours faithfully



Alex O'Donnell  
**Principal**