

Dear Parent and Carers

Welcome back to the new school year. This year promises to be an exciting one, as we continue to build on some of the key changes we have made in driving the school's vision. It is encouraging to see students returning for the new academic year with such enthusiasm and fully embracing our new uniform and school name change as 'Central Academy'. I am extremely proud to be on board with my team here at Central Academy. As Headteacher, my primary, uncompromising objective is to provide our students with an opportunity to attain the highest level of educational excellence. Our mantra for continuous improvement is 'High Expectations, High Challenge and High Support.' I look forward to working with parents/carers, staff, students and the local governing body to initiate key school improvements, which will make a difference and change the lives of our students.

Key Priorities

I have worked with the leadership team during my transition over the summer holidays. We want the best for our students and we will achieve this through high quality teaching. The school has had its second set of GCSE results, which were very disappointing. I am, however, positive that these results will be a springboard to initiating key improvements and we will be focusing on four key areas:

- **Communication and Parent Partnership:** Working together with you to support every child as a school community.
- **Behaviour and Personal Development:** Focusing on ensuring every child feels safe and supported to make the right choices.
- **Inclusion:** Embracing the diversity at our school to ensure we put the right things in place to provide meaningful learning opportunities.
- **Celebrating Success:** Recognising achievement and celebrating this to promote the well-being of every child.
- **Improving Outcomes for students:** Securing progress and attainment for students.

School Uniform

Due to your continued support and co-operation, I am pleased to be able to report that the vast majority of students have returned to school looking smart and ready to work. I know that these high standards reflect a wider commitment that will enable us to continue establishing a positive learning environment in school. I should also like to remind parents that students are expected to be in polishable black shoes not trainers.

Staffing

We are joined by some new colleagues and some existing staff are changing roles:

Mrs S Blake- Assistant Headteacher (Key stage 3 provision)

Mr M Nott- Assistant Headteacher (Teaching, Learning and Assessment)

Mr D Yeates- Head of English

Mrs M Gilbert- Head of Year 11

Miss C Ryan- Head of Year 10

Mr L Wilkins- Head of Year 9

Mr S Parkes- Head of Year 8

Mrs J Davies- Head of Year 7

Mrs B Weston- Careers Education Information Advice and Guidance

Parental Engagement

We know how vital working in partnership with parents is, if students are to find school a positive and rewarding experience. There will be many occasions when your views are sought, as they are very important in shaping the development of the school. As a result, we will host our first set of 'Central Parents' Forum' this term. These forums are designed to give parents and carers an opportunity to engage with the new strategic direction of the school. There are some key points that will be discussed such as:

- Mobile phone policy
- Shape of the school day
- School's key priorities

I hope to meet many of you over the next few weeks, please see dates below. ***Kindly, confirm your attendance to the forthcoming parents' forum with the slip at the end of the letter.***

Year 11: Parents' Evening & Parent Forum 04.10.2018

Year 7 & 8: Parent Forum 10.10.2018

Year 9 & 10: Parent Forum 11.10.2018

Behaviour

The first step in any school improvement is the raising of expectations. We expect all students to take responsibility for their own behaviour and be aware of the school's behaviour pathway, procedures and expectations. These are clearly set out in the school's behaviour policy. In return, staff offer much praise, support and encouragement to students.

Safeguarding and Data Information

Safeguarding is at the core of our practices here at Central. It is important the data we hold of our students is accurate. A data sheet will be sent home and we seek your support in completing and returning the data sheets back to school promptly. As part of the data collection process we will require 2 emergency contacts. As part of promoting a safeguarding



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Headteacher David Bailey

culture, this week at Central Academy we have/will continue to emphasise the important social issue of Knife Crime Awareness. This week the school is working alongside West Midlands Police to raise the safeguarding profile around Knife Crime Awareness. Students have a range of educational and informative events this week such as; an assembly about community responsibility around awareness of weapons in our community and the consequences of carrying weapons delivered by Reverend Dr Desmond Jaddoo.

Students will also have the opportunity to attend a 'Stop & Search' Workshop delivered by the Police & Crime Commissioners Office. Finally, students will explore this issue in greater detail throughout the week in PSHE lessons with their form tutors. Throughout the academic year random bag searches will be conducted to ensure we continuously promote our safeguarding ethos.

Thank you very much for taking the time to read this letter and thank you in advance for your support. I am determined to do the very best for Central Academy with students being central to the decision making process. As parents/carers you can expect students and staff to invest time, effort and hard work in our collective pursuit of educational excellence. I am excited and enthused to have now fully taken up this position as Headteacher. My team and I are committed to forging ahead as we create a dynamic culture of 'Collaboration, Opportunity, Respect and Excellence' at Central Academy. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any concerns.

Yours sincerely

Mr D. Bailey
Headteacher

PARENTS FORUM CONFIRMATION SLIP				
Name of Child/Children				
Child's Year Group	7 10.10.2018	8	9 11.10.2018	10 11.10.2018
				11 04.10.2018
Confirm Attendance	I will be attending I will not be attending			
Kindly ensure your child returns this confirmation slip to their Head Of Year by the 28th of September.				

Enclosed documents to be completed and returned:

1. Free School Meal registration letter and Eligibility form
2. Pupil information form
3. Images and Videos parental consent form

Please find below key dates 2018-19:

Term	Year Group	Event	Date
	Year 7	Parent Forum	10.10.2018
	Year 7	Assessment Week	15.10.2018 – 19.10.2018
	Year 8	Parent Forum	10.10.2018
	Year 8	Assessment Week	15.10.2018 – 19.10.2018
	Year 9	Parent Forum	11.10.2018
	Year 9	Assessment Week	19.11.2018 – 23.11.2018
	Year 10	Parent Forum	11.10.2018
	Year 10	Assessment Week	19.11.2018 – 23.11.2018
	Year 10	Parents' Evening	13.12.2018
	Year 11	Parents' Evening & Parent Forum	04.10.2018
	Year 11	Assessment Week	8.10.2018 – 12.10.2018
	Year 11	Mock Exam Week	26.11.2018 – 7.12.2018
	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY 24.12.2018 – 4.1.2019, HALF TERM 18.2.2019 – 22.2.2019		
Spring Term 2019	Year 7	Assessment Week	4.2.2019 – 8.2.2019
	Year 8	Parents' Evening	17.1.2019
	Year 8	Assessment Week	4.2.2019 – 8.2.2019
	Year 9	Parents' Evening	7.2.2019
		Assessment Week	1.4.2019 – 5.4.2019

	Year 10	Assessment Week	1.4.2019 – 5.4.2019
	Year 11	Assessment Week	28.1.2019 – 1.2.2019
	Year 11	Mock Exam Week	18.3.2019 – 29.3.2019
	Year 11	Parents' Evening	4.4.2019
EASTER HOLIDAYS 15.4.2019 – 29.4.2019			
Summer Term 2019	Year 7	Assessment Week	1.7.2019 – 5.7.2019
	Year 7	Parents' Evening	9.5.2019
	Year 7	Enrichment Fortnight	8.6.2019 – 19.6.2019
	Year 8	Assessment Week	1.7.2019 – 5.7.2019
	Year 8	Enrichment Fortnight	8.6.2019 – 19.6.2019
	Year 9	Assessment Weeks	17.6.2019 – 28.6.2019
	Year 9	Enrichment Fortnight	8.6.2019 – 19.6.2019
	Year 10	Work Experience	6.5.2019 – 17.5.2019
	Year 10	Mock Exams	17.6.2019 – 28.6.2019
	Year 10	Enrichment Fortnight	8.6.2019 – 19.6.2019
	Year 11	Parents' Evening	4.4.2019
	Year 11	GCSE EXAMS	13.5.2019
HALF TERM 27.5.2019 – 31.5.2019			
SUMMER HOLIDAYS START 22.7.2019			