

12th April 2019

Dear Parents/Carer

I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents for the support and feedback I've received to date as new Head of Central Academy. I've had 6 months to settle into the school and get to know the pupils and what they want.

We have an established student council with a Head Boy and Head girl as well as focus groups debating topics around school life offering realistic and achievable solutions to enhance the school day for everyone; I'm very proud of the mature approach these groups have taken. As a result of understanding more clearly what our children desire, we are starting to invest more in offsite extra-curricular activities, particularly in drama and arts and we are planning residential trips for all years, subsidised by the school.

As with any school, there are budgetary constraints and therefore we carefully select where to invest our precious funds. As a school we are working hard to overcome these constraints by channeling our funds into areas where we can positively impact our pupil outcomes and experiences such as educational materials, resources and trips. These offsite trips especially are opportunities to develop character and create memories which pupils will hopefully hold with them for a lifetime. It is therefore frustrating when a small number of our school population purposely cause damage to our facilities resulting in a need to divert funds to repairs and away from the more fun activities I mention above. I must now upscale my response to this mindless vandalism with immediate effect. Following thorough investigations by senior leadership and confirmation that an individual is responsible for said vandalism, I will be looking to parents to cover the cost of the repairs and at my discretion, the time in staff costs generated by executing the necessary investigations and supporting paperwork.

My 'no nonsense approach' going forward will please the majority of parents whose children wish to come to school to learn and make the most of all opportunities presented to them. I would urge all parents to talk to children over the coming days to reiterate my message that I will not tolerate intentional damage or theft and that the consequences will be harsh and impact not only them but their family too. I hope you can appreciate this is a tough but necessary message I must convey, in writing.

I will be sure to write soon to keep you up to date of the many wonderful things starting to take place at Central Academy and I look forward to leading the school during these exciting times.

I wish you all a wonderful Easter holiday.

David Bailey
Headteacher