

27th May 2010

Dear Parents/Carers

We have now completed our first half term in the new building and I am delighted with the smooth transition that has taken place. Students and staff have worked exceptionally hard to settle in to their new environment and they are enjoying the new facilities. Demolition of the old building is now underway and the landscaping is due for completion early in September 2010 which will conclude the programme of works.

A number of parents and carers have visited the Academy in recent weeks as part of a programme of tours organised by the five companies and there will be further opportunities available during the weeks ahead.

We continue to work hard to ensure our high standards are maintained and we rely on your support with this. The majority of our students have immaculate standards of business dress and we will continue to deal with the small minority who occasionally let us down. Shaved heads including patterns are not permitted, please ensure that your child conforms fully to our expectations in this respect.

Attendance and punctuality are key contributors to a student's success. We therefore rely on your support in ensuring excellence in both of these areas. A small number of students are letting the Academy down in this respect but more importantly they are building up a profile which will not prove attractive to future employers, colleges or universities. By working together we can be sure that all of our students have the best possible preparation for the future and this starts with the basics of good attendance and punctuality.

I would also like to update you on changes that have occurred in relation to the Academy's Senior Management Team. Mr Bird has taken up a Deputy Headteacher's post in a neighbouring authority and Mrs Mellors has been appointed as Associate Vice Principal. Mr Machin will take on the role of Associate Strategic Director for the Lifestyle Company. Both appointments are temporary for one year in the first instance.

We will shortly be asking for your support in completing a questionnaire. Your help with this is very much appreciated and will assist us in ensuring a continuous programme of improvement across the Academy.

We look forward to seeing you at the events scheduled for the remainder of the Summer Term and a reminder of the key dates are detailed overleaf:

A reminder about key dates for next term:

- Whitsun Half Term: 31st May 2010 – 4th June 2010
- Leavers Service: 25th June 2010
- Bright Stars Evening: 6th July 2010
- INSET Day (Academy closed for students): 7th July 2010
- New Intake Evening 2: 13th July 2010
- Parent Consultation Day Key Stage 3: 1st July 2010
- Parent Consultation Day Key Stage 4: 21st July 2010
- Year 5 Introduction Night: 22nd July 2010
- Transition Week: 26th July – 30th July 2010 for new Year 6, 7, 8 and 9
- Last day of term: 30th July 2010

Best wishes for an enjoyable half-term break.

Yours sincerely

Caroline Badyal
Chief Executive/Principal