

27 May 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

Well we have reached the end of this half-term and what a half-term it has been! It has been wonderful to see the visible changes around the academy from smarter uniform to better punctuality and conduct and an increased engagement in learning as a result. Thank you, parents, for being so supportive in our endeavours as we are committed to driving standards further still.

This half-term I have been pleased to see the focus and determination of our Year 11 and Year 13 students as they have been tackling the first series of exams since Covid lockdown in 2020. It has not been easy and there has been much anxiety but we are proud of how the students have coped and put in the best efforts which I am sure will reap rewards.

This half-term we have been making significant changes in Maths, with supply teaching being eliminated in favour of double lessons supported by permanent Maths teachers so that students have a much-improved learner experience. In addition, we have made some key appointments, namely Mr Powell who has become an Assistant Head responsible for student conduct and has been doing a brilliant job leading on the key changes. We have also just recently appointed a new Senior Deputy Head whose remit is Climate and Culture to include a focus on student care and inclusion. Finally, Miss Olowo has been appointed as Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead to work alongside Mr Bolwell and Mr Khalid in the safeguarding team. Her specific remit will be working with some of our most vulnerable students, peer on peer abuse, student voice, mental health and well-being across the Academy.

In addition, the student leaders have been re-launched and can be visibly seen in the Academy wearing their leadership ties with pride. They have been consulting with the wider student body on the new rewards structure going forward which will be launched next half-term. We have also appointed a new Head boy and Head girl in sixth form and they will be instrumental in establishing the NBA Parliament led by students with a focus on areas of school improvement. Finally, we have just trained our first cohort of Sixth Form reading mentors who will be supporting the reading skills of our KS3 students from next half-term.

Moving forward to next half-term we have two key priorities:

1. Continue to embed high standards related to attendance, uniform and conduct
2. Embed consistent approach to teaching and learning across the Academy

In relation to above, there will be a 'crack down' on uniform so please ensure that your child has the correct uniform especially no facial piercings, no short skirts and wearing suitable shoes as these will be a key focus. Students will be expected to change into suitable footwear and skirts provided by the Academy in order for them to be able to attend main stream lessons. Failing this, parents will be called to come and bring the appropriate uniform so that students can go into lessons. Students will not be



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permitted into lessons unless they have a valid reason which would need to be confirmed by parents. If there is medical evidence as to why your child should not wear shoes for example, such as a certified Doctor's letter then if you have not already done so please share this with you Head of Year so they may receive an exemption pass. There are no exemptions for short skirts and facial piercings except nose studs (not nose rings) to be worn **for religious purposes only**.

By doing this, we are helping to prepare students for life in the wider world, adhering to a dress code which also identifies us as North Birmingham Academy and everybody being treated the same by following the expectations set will form our strong foundations.

We continue to work in partnership with all stakeholders to drive standards in the Academy and we look forward to sharing our achievements as we go through the final summer term.

I wish you all a wonderful half term break.

Best wishes



**Michelle Scott**  
Headteacher



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