



7 May 2021

Dear Parent / Carer

### **Staffing Updates**

Last Friday we appointed a new teacher of Drama and a Director of Performing Arts to complement our existing Performing Arts team for September 2021. They are both excellent classroom teachers who have proven track records of delivering results. We look forward to welcoming them both to the academy in September.

### **Parents' Evenings**

Last week I wrote asking for feedback on the format of Parents' Evenings. There was a slight issue with the link which has now been fixed. Therefore could I please ask again that you spare a couple of minutes to provide us with your feedback which will allow us to plan for the next academic year. Thank you in advance for this.

<https://forms.office.com/r/hasz5NvgZG>

### **Festival Road**

We have noticed in recent weeks that the Festival Road entrance is becoming busier at the start and end of the school day. To help us reduce congestion and the risk of accidents we are asking parents to consider picking their children up away from the academy, with the improving weather students could walk a short distance to meet parents/carers allowing for a safer school exit. It would be greatly appreciated if you could consider this.

### **Y11 and 13**

We are now approaching the time of the final assessments for Y11 and 13. Their attitude, effort and commitment has been exceptional and we are very proud of how they have responded to the challenges they have faced. With this in mind and in line with our curriculum intent '*All students gain an array of positive school memories*' we have planned an exciting final week which includes the sponsored walk, a sports activity day, a trip to Alton Towers and a Leavers Assembly. We have also planned to hold a Prom for Y11 and a Summer Ball for Y13 to ensure they can reflect on some great memories of the academy. We hope these events make up for some of the missed opportunities over the last year.

### **Communication**

As you will be aware we have updated our 'contact us' section on the website to include the email contacts of key staff members, this will allow parents to directly email the staff member they wish to contact rather than going through enquiries. This has so far been successful in improving communication between parents and staff. By emailing staff, parents/carers will receive a response as soon as possible and within 48 hours.

With regards to outgoing communication, we have recently launched the Wath app. This will become our main point of communication to parents. Currently, due to the importance of Covid-19 and Teacher Assessed Grades we must ensure all parents receive the information, hence why we still use all forms of communication such as text messages and letters. However, as soon as possible we will be using the app as the main vehicle for communication. Please can I urge you, if you haven't already done so, to download the app via the following links:

Apple iPhone users, download the app here: [www.schoolgateway.co.uk/iosdownload](http://www.schoolgateway.co.uk/iosdownload)

Android phone users, download the app here: [www.schoolgateway.co.uk/androiddownload](http://www.schoolgateway.co.uk/androiddownload)

Your login details will be automatically generated using the contact information we hold. If you are unable to register it may be because we do not have your current mobile phone number or email address on record, please contact us at [enquiries@wathacademy.com](mailto:enquiries@wathacademy.com).

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Mr Ransome  
**Principal**