



29<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

I am delighted to write to you as the new Headteacher of Rockwood Academy. I started here just before the Easter holidays and am thoroughly enjoying getting to know such a welcoming and driven school community.

Good communication is vital for any school to run and, with this in mind, I write to you with the first of a series of e-newsletters that are designed to keep you up-to-date with important information.

This week's key points:

### **Attendance to school**

As you know, it is vital that young people attend school every day if they are to fulfil their academic and life potential. The school day starts at 8.35am and, therefore, all of our pupils need to be in school by 8.32am. This is to ensure that they are in their Form Tutor classroom by 8.35am.

### **Classcharts: Being aware of your child's activity in school**

In line with the above point, it is vital that pupils are in each lesson immediately, whether walking from break/lunchtimes or a previous lesson. Our teachers log all Corrections on Classcharts. Therefore, please regularly log-in to Classcharts to keep an eye on your child's log: do you know if they have received a Correction today or this week, and what for? And are they receiving positive comments from our staff that you are unaware of?

### **Corrections:**

As stated above, Classcharts is the place to find out if your child has a Correction after-school. We are still experiencing a number of parents who are coming to Reception straight after-school to ask if their child has a Correction. I would ask that all parents/carers use Classcharts to find this information out as the numbers coming to Reception are at times unmanageable.

### **Year 10 Mock Exams**

It was lovely to see so many parents at Year 10's progress evening. We appreciate the support of families as we move our students into their mock exam preparation (Mocks start Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June). These exams are their first opportunity to experience the rigors of their GCSE exam season and help teachers identify opportunities to make greater progress with our students. There are revision topic lists on our website to further support home learning.

## **Year 11 Exams & Interventions**

Year 11 have begun their external exams starting with creative arts and modern foreign languages. They have been engaging well with their afterschool and Saturday intervention sessions. Their written exams begin next week and carry on until 20<sup>th</sup> July. There will be breakfast boosters to help them enter the exam in a calm and prepared manner. They have further revision resources and preparation support on the Year 11 MS Teams channel. It is important that they attend every lesson and revision session to allow them to be supported with their preparation. We wish them the best of luck.

## **Parent Symposium**

We are preparing for our final Parent Symposium of the year which will be held on 16<sup>th</sup> May over two sessions, 9:30am and 4.00pm. We look forward to talking to you about the school over tea and cake.

## **Equipment**

We kindly request that parents/carers check that their child has the necessary equipment and planner for school so that they are ready to learn every lesson. We expect every child to have at least:

- A pencil case containing the following:
  - A black or blue pen
  - A red pen
  - A pencil
  - A ruler
  - A rubber

## **Medical Updates**

Please can I remind you that it is vital that the school is kept up-to-date with any medical information changes that may occur, for instance new medication needs. Please contact our Reception with any information such as this.

## **SENSO IT Equipment Monitoring**

We are now using a SENSO Information Technology filtering and monitoring system in school. This monitors all school devices such as laptops. Please speak to your child about staying safe online and using any school devices (and, of course, any device) appropriately. If it is a school device, their activity is monitored by this new system.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



**Mr R Reeve**  
Headteacher