

11 September 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

As you may be aware I am the new Principal of Essa Academy. I am delighted and humbled to lead this school and drive it forward. I firmly believe in the schools motto of 'All Will Succeed'. Indeed, that is what a school should be about. Success comes in many forms and we will celebrate them all. Academic grades open up future learning pathways and our new 'Essa Experience' will provide exactly that. Experiences. This innovative programme delivers exposure to financial management, first aid, interview skills, computer programming, healthy minds to name a few.

For all of our students to be successful we must work in partnership. The bar has been raised regarding GCSE examinations. We must rise to the challenge. To achieve this I will ensure that:

1. Standards of uniform and behaviour are high. The students know these are non-negotiable.
2. Lessons will be challenging and stretch students. I expect students to find the work hard.
3. You will receive regular (half termly) assessment grades along with attendance figures.
4. Students work will be assessed and marked with feedback regularly.
5. Homework will be set regularly and be fit for purpose.

As parents/carers I expect the following support:

1. You will ensure your child attends on time every day.
2. They have the correct equipment so they are ready to learn. This includes:
 - a) Pens, pencils, ruler, rubber
 - b) Fully charged iPad
 - c) Waterproof coat
 - d) Strong bag

- e) Full PE kit (on appropriate days)
- 3. That you contact your child's Head of Year and/or subject teacher regarding any queries at the earliest opportunity.
- 4. That if your child does not follow the rules that you support the sanctions put in place (for example detentions).
- 5. That together we celebrate excellence.
- 6. That you attend parental meetings including parents evening.
- 7. That you keep us updated on changes to contact details. (Enclosed is a data sheet that should be checked and any amendments made before being returned to your child's Form Teacher).

Together, in partnership, I am sure we will be celebrating the successes in the future. We have one chance of a great education.

Thank you.

Martin Knowles
Principal Essa Academy

Notices for parents/carers

1. Please be mindful of parking on the roads outside school. Residents have complained to the school and the council about driveways being blocked.
2. Parents evenings will be on the following dates this year:

Year 7 – Monday 27 November 2017

Year 8 – Monday 11 December 2017

Year 9 – Monday 29 January 2018

Year 10 – Monday 12 February 2018

Year 11 – Monday 18 September 2017

3. There will be a ‘meet the Principal’ event on Tuesday 26 September 2017 at 4.30pm and 5.30pm. It would be wonderful to meet you and share thoughts.

Thank you.