

3<sup>rd</sup> May 2022

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

As we welcome our students back to school at the start of the summer term, we have a few important updates to inform you of.

As you will be aware, we have joined the John Taylor Multi-Academy Trust and have already benefited from a large network of schools that we can collaborate with and have access to many more opportunities for staff and students. On Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2022, JTMAT has a trust wide INSET day which Chase Terrace Academy will now be part of. As a result, **students will not be in school on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July.**

Chase Terrace Academy has high expectations for the students and we are keen to continue to make improvements to our provision. We have been carrying out consultations with staff, parents/carers and students to see what they are saying about our provision. We are working hard to ensure that we react to your feedback and take your views into account. I will write to you again very shortly to share our new behaviour policy that will be in effect from September 2022. In the short term we are tightening up on simple aspects of our school expectations such as punctuality and uniform. Please support us in ensuring that your child is wearing the correct items to school. As a reminder, we do not accept tight or skinny jeans style trousers, Ponte, or cropped trousers. We will issue an infringement notice but will expect parents and carers to support us if trousers are not suitable and do not meet our uniform policy. If you are unsure, please call us and check first. To support families in ensuring uniform continues to be cost effective, we will no longer accept trainer style shoes from September 2022. Families have told us that these are expensive and that students are feeling pressure to wear branded footwear items so we are removing them from our policy. If your children need their footwear replacing this term, please bear this in mind and do not purchase items that will not be suitable, and that we will not accept from September. As a guide, shoes that can be worn to a wedding or formal event will be suitable but trainers, such as Nike Airforce or Adidas leather trainers will not be permitted. If students come to school in unsuitable shoes/trainers in September we will provide them with alternative items to wear, and parents/carers will be expected to support us and their child to ensure suitable footwear is worn.

Since the lockdown, we are experiencing a number of students being persistently late to school and this is affecting their education. We expect students to be in school and in their form room by 8.30am and there is no excuse for students being late regularly. Our tutor programme begins at 8.30am and is a key part of the day. We will be accommodating should there be an emergency but regular lateness is a real barrier to students accessing our curriculum. From May half term, if students are late, they will be issued with a same day lunchtime detention. Please discuss this with your child and remind them of the importance of punctuality.

We monitor the behaviour of students closely and this will be a key part of our work in tightening up standards at Chase Terrace Academy. Please support us in this so that your child achieves the best possible outcomes here, and so that they continue to feel happy and safe.

We are aware of issues with our communication platform and we are working on a better way to make sure you get key information from us about your children. It is really important to us that you are kept informed and that you are able to know where your child is achieving well, and where they need support. I will send out more information on this before the summer break, but we expect to have a better system in place for the new academic year.

I would like to thank you for your support this year. It has, again, been a challenging year for us all and students have missed out on many things during the pandemic. I was fortunate to be able to join the year 7 students at their PGL trip to Borreaton Park in Shrewsbury this Bank Holiday weekend, our first residential trip since 2020. Every single one of the children made me proud. Students demonstrated resilience, independence, problem solving and most importantly they showed empathy and friendship to each other, even to those they did not know very well until that weekend. I have laughed until I cried with the most inspiring of young people and I have been strongly reminded of why we do the job we do. The staff who gave up their weekend and organised the trip for the students worked hard to make sure the students had the best time possible. I would like to thank them for their time and hard work – although I know they had just as much fun as the children!

Our year 11 and 13 students will be starting their exams soon and I would like to formally thank them for their hard work and dedication to prepare for these. The mock exams have given us a really positive indication of the revision and preparation that has already taken place and I look forward to seeing them approach the exams with confidence and determination. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you feel that your child needs support – we know that this year will be a challenge but we also know our students are more than capable of success.

There will be more updates to follow in the coming days and weeks. All of our letters will be put onto the school website to support you in accessing key information this term.

Best wishes,



**Ms N Mason**  
**Head of School**