



2 October 2020

Dear Parent

As we move into the last two weeks of the first half term, I wanted to update you in relation to a few important items.

New building

I am delighted to say that on Monday 5 October 2020, we will be handed the keys to this wonderful new facility. A small number of students will use this next week in order to complete some Drama coursework, we also hope to also open it to some Post 16 students. In the next week, we will be making final plans for its use after half term. In due course, when able, the new building will be our new Humanities and Drama facility, with all History, Geography and PRE lessons taught in this space. In addition to this, there will be a new Sixth Form study centre to complement the existing study centre near to the main entrance.

Mobile Phones

I wish to remind you that mobile phones are **not to be seen or heard** at any time on the school site, unless a member of staff specifically permits this to aid learning in a classroom environment where it is supervised and monitored. In addition to this, any student who uses any device in school time, to record, share or broadcast images of any member of the school community will receive a significant sanction, and likely exclusion from school. I would be most grateful if you would remind your child of this and the important fact that taking images or the filming others is not appropriate in school. Should I feel that there is a rise in issues relating to aspects such as this, I will review our policy and may be required to enforce a complete ban on any use of any phone at any time on the school site,

Social Media

Lockdown has seen social media become a more prevalent tool than ever before, both in a very positive way but also with some negative ramifications. Sadly, schools suffer from the more negative effects of social media with issues caused online being brought into school. Due to the long period of lockdown, I need to restate our stance in relation to social media as below:

1. That we will not get involved with issues that take place on social media outside of the school day
2. That school will take a very serious view of any issues that have taken place on social media which are then brought into school and disrupt any aspect of school life and will not hesitate to contact the Police and other agencies if required to safeguard staff and students at all times
3. That it is the responsibility of parents to monitor their child's social media use and any connected device. As a school, we have no specific views on this but encourage parents to take an active interest in any engagement with social media such as Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, Snapchat & WhatsApp
4. That parents should report any anti-social social media usage to the provider and should contact Police if required
5. Our website contains helpful information for parents on Esafety - <http://www.theacademycarlton.org.uk/e-safety> which is a topic covered in many aspects of our curriculum



Access to and respect for toilets

I am very aware that access to toilets in the current situation is a challenge for some staff and students, the new building will make a huge positive difference to this and I am grateful to all staff and students for their patience. I have been impressed with the way that most students have respected this challenge in the last few weeks. Sadly, there have been a few cases where a tiny minority of students have not shown the same level of respect as their peers and this has meant that access to toilets has been even harder. Can I ask parents to remind their child that it is important to respect all spaces, including toilets and to leave them clean and tidy as they would wish to find them to use personally. There are cameras in corridors outside all toilets and any students identified as not having respected these expectations will be sanctioned firmly and will lose the right to use these facilities and will need to be given alternative arrangements that will cause them significant disruption.

Behaviour in the community

We are very proud of our school and the excellent reputation that we have in our community. We work tirelessly to maintain and develop this further. In the last week, there have been a small number of incidents that have happened on the way home involving students wearing our school uniform. I want to remind all parents and students that should a child behave in a negative manner in our uniform, I will treat this as I would in the school building and sanction students strongly.

Uniform and equipment

A huge thank you to all parents and students for the outstanding uniform worn and equipment brought into school each day. There are no outstanding orders at our suppliers and all students look very smart indeed. Your support in this area is very much appreciated. You can find information about uniform and equipment on our website at <http://www.theacademycarlton.org.uk/uniform-and-equipment>

I have taken the time to remind everyone of our expectations in these areas as six months is a very long time for young people to not be in school routines and many of these issues have not been relevant to our daily lives. We are very much back at school and it is important that we remind ourselves of how we operate and our expectations and values. I have been generally delighted with the way that school has reopened and the progress that is being made every day, a reminder of some key expectations will only aid this transition back to normal.

Many thanks for your on-going support,



Mr Pierpoint
Executive Head