



NEWSLETTER UPDATE

Associate Principal



Dear Stantonbury families,

I hope you are well.

I want to start by reminding you that the school will be closed to students on Monday 28th November. I have no doubt that the children will make the most of their long weekend.

As you may be aware our Year 11s have just completed their first full week of Mock exams and whilst looking shattered they have conducted themselves in a very positive manner. Attendance and punctuality have both significantly improved this week due to their attitude and engagement with their exams. We have even laid out the carpet for them.



In addition to the highly relevant and engaging study skills sessions that Elevate Education are delivering to our Yr11 students in school, there are also a number of Parent Support Webinars that are free and easy to access.

The next one is on Tuesday 29th November, at 6pm. It is titled "How to help your child become more resilient". This will include top study tips and free access to downloadable templates that will help you to further support your child in their studies. It can be accessed by the link here, and then registering your contact details to reserve your place:

<https://get.elevatecoaching.info/uk/register>

Building relationships

I am very happy to report that we have held our first parent working group meetings at the school. On Friday morning of last week and on Monday evening this week we held an open discussion with parents representing students in all year groups centred around accelerating our improvement journey. The two meetings were very well attended and the conversations were very open and transparent from both sides of the table. In our first

meeting we looked at three areas, Engaging our families, effective communication and Strengthening our relationships in the community. The group will meet monthly and through both the Facebook group and our Family communications we will highlight the actions taken and the impact made as a result of the meeting. If you are interested in joining the Facebook group simply search Stantonbury School Parents Support Group.

Effective Communication

We will be working with our staff and you, our families to produce a communication protocol so your telephone calls, emails and enquiries are addressed in a timely fashion. It is so important that we strengthen this dialogue and communication link and the key to its success is for us to consult with both staff and families and then make all parties explicitly aware of our expectations, so there are no misunderstandings and most importantly you get your answers to your question, query or concern.

In the meantime I wanted to ensure you have the email address of all the key staff in the school that will be able to support you. Below are the emails of our Senior Leadership team and their roles and responsibilities, our Heads of Year and our enquiries email.

Sharon Lynch - Quality of Education - sharon.lynch@stantonbury-tove.org.uk



Katie Shires - Safeguarding and Pastoral - katie.shires@stantonbury-tove.org.uk



Nicola Yates - Raising Standards - nicola.yates@stantonbury-tove.org.uk



Aaron Davies - Inclusion and Diversity - aaron.davies@stantonbury-tove.org.uk



Melvina Stephens - Behaviour and Rewards - melvina.stephens@stantonbury-tove.org.uk



Rebecca Perry - Attendance - rebecca.perry@stantonbury-tove.org.uk



Key dates and reminders

Last day of term - The school will be closing for the Christmas break on Friday 16th December at 12pm.

First day back to school for students - Wednesday 4th January 23.

All parents of children in Year 7-10 will receive an end of term report before the Christmas break.

Yr11 and 6th Form will receive their report on the first week back.

Medication

Students are not permitted to carry medication on them. If your child requires medication in school, it has to be prescribed by a health professional and in the original box with the pharmacy dispensing label on it. As parents please bring the medication to school and fill in the consent form available in reception.

We are not able to give out paracetamol or over the counter medication (non-prescribed).

Academy Improvement Board

As you are aware from previous communications, in order to support and challenge our improvement journey TOVE Learning Trust have established an Academy Improvement Board (AIB) that meets half termly to assess our progress. Please see the feedback from our latest meeting.

AIB 4th November 2022 meeting

Our second AIB meeting of the academic year was to reflect on the early progress being achieved against the strategic objectives contained in the school improvement plan.

We reviewed, and discussed, a number of areas with key areas being student attendance, safeguarding and SEND provision.

The senior leader responsible for attendance provided a clear overview of the challenges facing the school to secure the improvements required. A robust action plan is in place and improvements are already being noted. A range of strategies have been planned and governors will receive regular updates on this key priority at future meetings.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and an update from the senior leader responsible confirmed the robust procedures in place to protect everyone in school. Training records, and the feedback from this training, confirmed both the rigorous and proactive approach the school has to this priority area. Feedback from colleagues has also influenced the provision of additional training that has been well received.

SEND provision is a priority at Stantonbury and following a restructure of the SEND teamwork is accelerating around SEND provision. A recent comprehensive audit conducted by TOVE has identified key areas of focus moving forwards. Progress is being secured in areas identified and governors will closely monitor the action plan produced as an outcome of this audit.

On a recent school visit I was pleased to note staff and student commitment to key areas of change in teaching and learning. Staff compliance with the Do Now activities in lessons was proving effective in engaging students quickly and calmly with the learning in the lesson. Further to this I observed, alongside a few prospective parents and a Year 6 pupil, a lesson changeover. It was very calm and purposeful (with approximately 300 students moving at the same time) and an illustration of the high behaviour expectations the staff have of students but also that students have of themselves.

Best wishes, Linda Brooks, Chair of Stantonbury School AIB

We hope you have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards



Mr Wilson - Associate Principal