

February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

I wanted to write to you as many of you will have seen the shocking images on the news and social media surrounding protests in schools and may have concerns about your children.

I wanted to confirm to you that our students, your children, made us exceptionally proud last week on their return from half term, their conduct was polite, calm and orderly. As an academy we focused on an aspect of safeguarding - sharing indecent images, which will continue into next week and Year 7 worked specifically on aspects of the Diana Award such as body image and bullying. We have many external visitors to our academy who always comment on how kind, welcoming and respectful our students are. I wanted to share this with you in case any of your children had any concerns about next week.

If anyone did become involved in such protests, putting the safety of other students or staff at risk or disrupting the learning in the academy, this would as always be treated with the utmost seriousness and would result in a suspension for students failing to comply with reasonable requests such as not returning straight back to lessons as this ultimately could endanger others. A reminder that students are not allowed to use their phones in the academy, using their phone to record themselves or others will of course be treated with the same seriousness. Please support us and ensure that your children are aware in advance of next week.

Our academy is a community. We always encourage our students to contribute actively in shaping the educational experience they and their fellow students receive. Any student, in any classroom, in any year, has a voice that should be heard and our Student Voice programme facilitates this. Student Voice sits at the heart of our academy. All tutors have a Student Voice Representative who can take back to the Student Voice Panel anything they wish regarding their educational experience.

Throughout the first week of this half term I shared with our students through an assembly reminders of our standards and expectations and reminded them how proud I am of their integrity and how they support each other. We have a broad and balanced curriculum which offers many rich educational experiences and opportunities. The vast majority of weeks I celebrate what the amazing young people in our academy do in the Principal's Blog, all of these are saved under 'Updates from the Academy' on our [website](#). Our Twitter account has constant feeds about what is happening in the academy and what our students are doing, please follow us on [@OutwoodFreeston](#)

Thank you in advance for your support in ensuring that all students, staff and visitors to our academy remain safe.

Yours faithfully



Lisa Allott
Principal