



# WELCOME BACK

We have thoroughly enjoyed seeing our pupils returning to us for this academic year and we are excited to be back!

Please see below some important information and reminders:

## School Hours

Please be reminded that our school hours are 8.50am - 2.50pm.

Whilst the school gates allow access from 8.40am, and staff are present at the front of the building before and after school, pupils remain the responsibility of escorts, parents and carers until school officially commences at 8.50am.

Staff will, of course, support as necessary if required.

## Fleece Jacket/Blazer

As part of our uniform improvement, we have purchased fleece jackets for our pupils up to and including year 5, and our year 6 pupils will each receive a blazer.

These items will be distributed to pupils in the coming week. It is important for your child to wear the fleece/blazer that they are provided as this will become part of our academy uniform. Your child will be expected to arrive at the academy wearing the fleece/blazer each day.

Please ensure that your child's name is clearly labelled in their uniform to reduce the loss of items.

## Reading

Book bags and reading a variety of books continue to be part of the curriculum and our reading for pleasure scheme. It is important that children read regularly to improve their language and communication skills, whilst allowing them to immerse in wonderful stories.

Reading books and bags should be brought into school on a daily basis, and reading regularly with your child at home is equally important to improve these skills.

Phoenix Academy regularly reward pupils who are reading at home with parents/carers, therefore it is important that the reading log book be completed to ensure that your child does not miss out. Should you have difficulties in reading with your child at home, please speak to your child's class teacher.

### Covid-19 Update

You will have recently heard lots of information regarding the new advice relating to Covid-19. In order to continue to keep our pupils and staff safe if a child or member of staff feels unwell, they are advised to take an PCR test.

The most important symptoms of Covid-19 are recent onset of any of the following:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell

Should you be contacted by track and trace as a 'contact' then you are not required to isolate if you have received a double vaccination, unless you experience symptoms.

Staff at Phoenix Academy will be continuing to undertake twice weekly LFT testing as a precautionary measure and as ventilation is important, we will be continuing to keep all windows open in classrooms and office areas.

### Class DoJo

Important and often vital information is shared with parents/carers using the Class Dojo platform which all parents/carers have been given access to previously. It is really important that this is checked frequently to keep up to date with your child's daily progress and achievements which are often great talking points for celebration at home.

If you are experiencing any difficulties accessing Class Dojo please contact the school office so that we can assist you further.

### Family Support

We are very lucky at Phoenix to have two Family Support Workers who work closely with families and offer support regarding family life, benefits and support groups. Our Family Support Workers also hold regular coffee mornings and events which all parents/carers are invited to attend. Should you wish to speak to either Kelly or Steph, please contact the school office who will make the necessary arrangements.

### Online Safety

All staff, pupils and parents/carers have access to the Safer Schools App which is a valuable tool to support you and your child with all aspects of online safety. Should you require support with access to this App, again please contact the school office for further information. Kelly and Steph are also available to answer any questions/queries that you may have surrounding online safety and further advice/guidance for parent/carers.

## Expectations

We have made some improvements within the academy building over the last 12 months, and we are planning to continue to do so to provide our pupils with an immersive and enjoyable education setting that they are proud to be part of.

We have seen an increase in property damage over the last term and it is unfortunate when the damage has an effect not only on the building in general but the costs to the academy to repair/replace items are significant. It would be appreciated if you could remind your children that property damage is not acceptable in any form.

Whilst we appreciate the importance of personal objects/toys to our pupils – this can often cause difficulties throughout the school day. We encourage all children to leave these objects at home and share photographs of these items on Class Dojo should they wish to discuss them with their class mates and teachers. This would also promote their social and communication skills when discussing items of personal value with their class.

Should you wish to discuss this further, please speak to your class teacher directly.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

We are looking forward to working with your child and yourselves throughout this new school year as we have lots of fantastic topics planned.

