

11th June 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Facilities update & donation request

As you will be aware the Academy's ethos is 'Empowering Learners for Life'. Our approach is to strive to give the students and adults the best possible experiences that will help shape their future. One aspect of this ethos is to ensure the students get the widest possible curriculum experience.

Over the last year we have extended the school day and added a wider curriculum, including PSHE, careers and enrichment lessons. I just wanted to take this opportunity to make you aware of further curriculum developments in readiness for September.

We are currently creating a large Dance and fitness studio. I have appointed a specialist Dance and Drama teacher, Miss Heath, who will join us in September. All students in KS3 will therefore have experiences in the full range of Performing Arts subjects (Dance, Drama, Music) each week in purpose built facilities, with a wider range of choices at KS4.

I have appointed an additional teacher of Technology, Miss Peacey (again starting in September) and we are currently refurbishing an additional technology room. This will allow all students to access equally additional technology and food lessons twice a week.

The third exciting (and critical) development is that of the installation of our new library. Literacy development is crucial for all children and many schools are now without a library. I have invested a considerable amount of money to the creation of the new library/reading resource room in readiness for September. As well as furniture - books, iPads and online resources are being purchased as we speak. Every student in KS3 will have a weekly timetabled curriculum time with their specialist English teacher in the library. Similar will happen at KS4. As well as the curriculum time, ongoing development of the use of the library will be developed for all students. All students will also have access to the online books. In order to support this curriculum development, I have also appointed 2 new English teachers – Miss Fiddes and Miss Wedgwood. This means that our focus on literacy and oracy through a love of reading is being led by the specialist teachers in school.

Whilst I have diverted hundreds of thousands of pounds into facilities, resources and staff to support these curriculum developments, the Academy is looking for additional resources for the library (we can never have too many books!). Therefore, could I ask that if you (or friends/family) have any books that you no longer want then we are more than happy to accept any donations. The Academy caters for a range of abilities so any age range would be suitable. Ideally, books in good condition would be our preference. We can accept donations via the Academy reception or do contact us if you need any support.

I am sure you will agree that the three developments outlined here are both exciting and what is needed for our children. Indeed, I hope many of you recognise that we are addressing some suggestions raised by yourselves in the recent parental survey – thank you to all that took part. As the new facilities start to take shape, I will share pictures/updates in due course.

I appreciate some of these developments may be a little frustrating to hear about for our Y11 parents, but I do hope that you can continue to support the Academy to move forward and develop.

Do follow us via social media (Facebook @theormeacademyset, Twitter @theormeacademy) to get updates on all the amazing activities our students experience every day.

Thank you



Mark Boughey
Principal

