



SKEGNESS ACADEMY

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Dear Parents and Carers of students at the Skegness Academy

It gives me great pleasure to introduce myself as the new Principal of the Skegness Academy. It is a privilege to have been entrusted with the job of leading the Academy forward on its journey.

Some of you may have already met me; I have worked alongside the academy leadership team for the past three months. I thoroughly enjoy working at the Skegness Academy and I have an unshakable belief in all our students. I am determined that the Academy builds on its legacy flourishes and develops its position at the heart of our community.

The first step in any school improvement is the raising of expectations. It is important that we are ambitious and I know that our students will respond positively to a challenge. So, next term we are introducing some changes that we believe will make a significant impact on our school culture. Your support with these changes will be greatly appreciated and will help us get off to a positive and successful start in January.

Start of the school day

To start each day on a positive note we would like all students to enter the building punctually. I and other members of the Senior Leadership Team will greet students at the entrances every morning with a friendly greeting. This initial first contact is a very important part of showing that we care for and welcome all students to the school.

Uniform

Although the standard of students' adherence to our school uniform has improved vastly in recent years, there is still work to do to ensure that all students represent the school well and wear their uniform with pride. We intend to make uniform a priority in terms of having high expectations of our students. Therefore any student wearing incorrect uniform will be challenged either at the school entrance or in period 1. Students will be asked to change and parents may be contacted to bring the appropriate uniform to school. If there are unavoidable reasons why your child cannot wear the correct uniform please provide them with a note explaining the reasons for this.

Equipment

All students are expected to come to school every day with the equipment they need to be successful. This includes a full set of stationery, academy planner, PE kit, a reading book, and an appropriate school bag large enough to carry everything needed for school.

Mobile phones

We recognise that mobile phones and other portable devices are important to our students as learning tools, for contacting parents and carers and as a safety precaution that can be used to and from school. We will not be banning mobile devices from the school premises; however, recent research suggests that the use of mobile phones can have a detrimental effect on student outcomes. Mobile phones affect behaviour; they can be a major distraction and can be used to bully and harm others. For these reasons, from January we will not allow the use of mobile phones and portable devices inside the school building. The only exception to this will be if a teacher specifically asks for students to use their mobile phone in a lesson for the purposes of learning. Students will still be able to use their mobile phones during break and lunchtimes. This change will be strictly monitored.. Any phone seen inside the building will be confiscated by staff, and can be collected by the student at the end of the day. If you need to contact your child urgently please phone the school Reception and the message will be passed on to your child.

The Skegness Academy is part of the Greenwood Dale Foundation Trust Group of Academies

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A list of Directors is available for inspection at the registered office, Greenwood House, Private Road No 2, Colwick Quays Business Park, Nottingham NG4 2JY.
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Respect and Conduct

I'm rather old fashioned when it comes to respect and conduct. I expect all members of the Skegness Academy to show the utmost respect to each other, the school environment and themselves at all times. This can be demonstrated in a variety of ways; some as simple as holding a door open, disposing of litter correctly, being on time, listening contently and always using manner and addressing adults appropriately. I would expect our staff to model this behaviour and continue to provide stimulating, well planned lessons, give useful feedback and get to know more about your children's hopes, dreams and interests so as to help our students reach the very best outcomes possible in the future.

Principal's drop-in for parents and carers

In addition to the mechanisms that we already have in place for communicating with the school, I will be introducing a half-termly Principal's drop-in for parents and carers at which you can discuss any concerns or issues that you would like me to address. These will be held on the following dates: 18 January, 8 March, 17 May, 3 March, 5 May and 5 July. If you wish to attend please contact the academy reception by 3.00 pm the day prior to the drop-in session. You will then be advised of an available time.

We were extremely proud of our students who represented the Skegness Academy at the Remembrance Service in November and all the students who won awards for outstanding achievement at our recent Presentation Evening. Members of the Skegness Academy choir have been involved over the past two weeks performing at local care homes, something which the residents greatly appreciate. Sixth Form students have been very busy this term collecting goods for the Skegness Food Bank – something most of us take for granted but I am sure is appreciated by those less fortunate than ourselves. Finally, we would like to promote our forthcoming production of West Side Story which will take place on Wednesday 10 and Thursday 11 January 2018. Tickets are available from Main Reception.

Thank you very much for taking the time to read this letter and thank you in advance for your support. I am determined to do the very best for the Skegness Academy, I will always put students first when making decisions and I am excited and enthused to take up my new post in January. I hope you have an enjoyable Christmas and I look forward to meeting you in the coming months. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any concerns.

Yours sincerely



Mr G Carlile
Principal Designate

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