



Ref: KSL/Headteacher\_Letter  
Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

I'd like to begin by thanking parents and carers who work hard to ensure their child is in school every day. Our attendance rates continue to improve with Year 7 proudly leading the way; on two days last week they recorded 100% attendance! Attendance rates have a direct effect on student achievement and so we would urge any student who is absent to catch up any missed work.

You will no doubt be aware of the recent tragic incidences in Birmingham and across the country, and the subsequent discussions in the media of how we as a society can end knife crime. As a school, we take our role in this very seriously. We have increased the ways in which we work in conjunction with the police and other external support agencies to help educate students to make safe choices. This has recently involved students being informed of what takes place during stop and searches, which included an explanation of their rights along with other workshops and activities to raise students' understanding of the dangers of knife crime. We urge all parents to discuss the activities/workshops that have been taking place in school. This level of intervention and education is something I believe every school should be addressing with the sole purpose of improving the safety for all members of the community.

This week has also seen a number of other external agencies in to support our students including the following:

- Balfour Beatty delivering workshops to Year 9 about the job opportunities linked to the HS2 project.
- Midland Heart delivering workshops to Year 8 about apprenticeships.
- Savills supporting the planning for the school graduation.

We are very proud of the links we are forging with the local community to ensure our students have the best opportunities when they leave school.

We continually want to show off the good work of our students and have an opportunity to do this week beginning 18<sup>th</sup> March. Keep an eye on our website and twitter feed for more information about how you can visit the school during open week.

As you will be aware from previous communication, school is closed to students on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March for a staff training day.

Yours Sincerely,

Miss K. Slater  
Headteacher