



Our Ref: TKi/PJ/JEd

12 April 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I can't believe we are already entering the final term of the school year, and one which is very important to our year 11 students. We once again find ourselves in the situation where formal exams won't be taking place in the summer, and we have been working very closely with the school and the trust to ensure the GCSE grades awarded this year are fair and represent the ability of the student.

Reflecting on the year so far, I have been really pleased with the progress the school has made. We have completed the independent review which we promised to undertake post Ofsted and it was encouraging to see the school has made great progress since the Ofsted Inspection. Over the last year the school has really demonstrated its capacity to improve and embrace change. The quick shift back to remote learning, and in particular the level of online lesson's, when schools were forced to close again after Christmas, is a success the school can be proud of. When it was time to reopen again the school did really well in implementing the testing programme and was ready to receive all students back again on the first day. From my understanding on how some other schools approached this period our offering has been more comprehensive and demonstrates our commitment to be the school of choice and was worthy of making the local news on a number of occasions. I would also like to thank you for your support during the last term in engaging with the remote learning and accommodating the testing requirements.

We have continued to run Parent Forums, albeit virtually, and I would like to thank those of you who attended last term and encourage parents to join us at our next meeting on 18th May 2021. At the last meeting we shared our new website and I am pleased this has now gone live and is an important, and much improved update from our old one which I hope you all agree.

You may have recently heard that Mr Froy is supporting County Upper School in the Summer Term. Mr Froy continues to be part of the Sybil Andrews Academy team and his involvement across both schools will help build closer links which will benefit the education and enrichment both schools can provide. This is an excellent opportunity and I look forward to continuing to work with him this term.

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There have been a couple of changes to the Local Governing Body; Jan Bloomfield who was one of the schools original governors stepped down at the beginning of the year. Stephen Watts and Rosemary Prince, who were both part of the trust central team, have also stepped down. I would like to thank them for their contribution and welcome Joe Benford, who has previously served as a governor at another school and brings valuable HR experience, and Lois Reed who is the Trust representative on our LGB.

Once again thank you for your continued support and hopefully I will get to meet a few more of you at our next Parents forum on 18th May 2021.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P Jay', written in a cursive style.

Paul Jay
Chair of Governors