

19 March 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

I would like to bring to your attention, a number of items of interest:

#### **Academic Tracking Days**

In the school calendar at the end of each full term; Christmas, Easter and Summer, you will find Target Setting/Academic Tracking Days. We have introduced these to provide students and parents with information on progress to date and strategies and materials for improvement. Each student will be assigned a teacher who will mentor them through each meeting and parents are asked to book appointments through the insight booking system which we use for Parent Consultations. The meeting will last approximately 15 minutes and during the course of the meeting parents and students will be provided with their termly report, a copy of their latest mock exam results and resources to help them improve. The meetings are designed to be positive and ensure that the focus is on improving achievement in the future. **The second of these meetings is on the evening of Thursday 4 April or during the school day on Friday 5 April.** Appointment slots are available for all teachers on both days. As a result, the last full day of school is Thursday 4 April and students should only attend on the 5 April if they have a scheduled appointment. In the summer, the dates are Thursday 18 July and Friday 19 July with the same arrangements as Easter.

#### **Uniform**

I have sent a separate communication regarding school uniform and planned changes that will phase into the academy over the next two years.

#### **Website**

We hope to be launching a new website before the Easter holidays which will be easier to navigate and improve academy-home communication. Integrated into this are the new Knole Academy Facebook, Instagram and Twitter sites which we hope you will follow. These are being maintained to celebrate all the work of students at the academy and will also be used to aid revision and send reminders.

#### **Exams Year 10, 11, 12 and 13**

We have been asked by Kent County Council to inform parents about contingency plans in the light of Brexit. As there are still significant uncertainties around the timing and form of this process, I shall leave this for now. However, it is important that students undertaking public examinations make every effort to attend the academy on the day of the exam. If you are running late, caught in traffic or unwell, please make every effort to attend. The academy can apply for special dispensation after the exam, but exam boards are generally not favourable if the examination has not been sat at all. Just a reminder that there is no study leave and all students involved in public examinations attend school as normal until their final exam. The academy will make amendments to timetables to provide additional revision and details of this will be provided at the start of May.

#### **Term dates for 2019**

On 2 September 2019, the academy will be open to Year 7 and Sixth form students only, all other students will return on 3 September 2019. The intention is for the 3 September to be a normal teaching day and therefore students should check their timetables via insight prior to returning to school. Just to remind parents that the October half term will be two weeks in duration, commencing on Monday 21 October. The December term will finish with an academic tracking event which will take place on Thursday 19 and Friday 20 December 2019. The last full teaching day for students will be Thursday 19 December 2019. Knole Academy is returning earlier in September and finishing later in December than the published Kent dates to allow us to have a two week October half term which is in alignment with other local schools.

Yours faithfully,



David Collins  
**Headteacher**