

15th September 2016

Dear Parent / Carer

Welcome back

We are still celebrating our most recent GCSE exam results - where both academies saw a 5% increase, achieving record-breaking results once again for Worksop. These results are expected to place both academies in the top 1% of schools in England - an amazing achievement from students; well done to all, you deserve every grade! We wish our leavers the very best as they start new ventures and thank them for the amazing years and great memories.

Students and staff worked tirelessly throughout the year to secure these results and their hard work and commitment has certainly paid off.

Results are as follows:

- A*-C in English and maths = 88%
- 5 A*-C including English and maths= 86%
- 5 A*-C all subjects = 89%
- Attainment 8 = 5.8
- Progress 8 = 1.05

Explanation of the new measures:

Attainment 8 – The average grade for all students across their best 8 subjects.

Progress 8 – The average amount of progress students make across their best 8 subjects, with a score of zero meaning they made expected progress.

Once again the new Year 11s start above last year's with even more banked qualifications, so we are expecting another amazing set of results in 2017! Similarly, the new Year 9s and Year 10s are well on track with their GCSE courses.

It is a challenging time for Year 8, who are now working hard towards their graduation. If they can maintain high levels of effort in all their lessons, and secure three Pledges, they will be starting GCSE classes in July. Good luck, we know you'll be ready.

We are very pleased to have welcomed our new Year 7 students, they have settled well and are already demonstrating the level of learning that has gained Worksop national recognition. We are looking forward to discovering all of their talents as they develop and flourish with us.

We are excited to see just what we can achieve this year as we continue to push expectations to new heights. As always, thank you to all the families who have gone above and beyond with their levels of support and encouragement. It takes a community working together to provide students with this level of education, and your commitment has enabled us to remain steadfast with our vision, providing a world-class education for the students of Worksop.

As part of my role as Executive Principal, I will be supporting other academies within the Outwood chain. To ensure someone is always available at Portland, Mr Rob Joyce has been appointed as Associate Principal and will work closely with me to maintain the standards you've grown to expect. Mr Joyce has been at Portland for over 10 years and has been instrumental in securing the improvements here; he is an outstanding leader and fully understands the commitment we've made to you in ensuring Portland remains one of the top performing schools in England.

Parent Voice Invitation

I would like to invite parents/carers to join the Senior Leadership Team for our termly "Parent Voice" meetings. These meetings give parents/carers the opportunity to ask questions and raise matters that they feel would also benefit other parents who are present. The meetings are very informal but very informative. Copies of previous minutes are on the website. The meetings will commence at 4.30pm. There is no need to book a place, please just arrive at Reception five minutes before the meeting is due to begin.

- 29th September 2016
- 2nd February 2017
- 8th June 2017

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible.

Yours sincerely

Dr P Smith
Executive Principal