

Our ref: DSH/MGR

28th March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

As we have come to the end of another school term, I would like to thank you for your ongoing support for our school and to inform you of some future changes. Mrs Andrews (Maths) and Mr Lovett (Science), are leaving us for pastures new, and we wish them well in their future ventures. Mrs Clapham will be joining us in Maths and Mr Clements in Science, both have a wealth of experience teaching Y7-Y13. We are excited for Mr Williams and Mrs Debic to join our Portland family too. They are both primary specialist teachers and will work predominantly with those who need extra support with phonics and numeracy.

This week, we had the privilege of seeing our musicians perform. I was absolutely blown away by the talent of our students who competed at the Worksop Music Festival and were entered in their ABRSM music exams. I am very proud of every single person involved.

Our Year 11 students are studying very hard, and have recently sat their mock exams. It was a delight to see families and students at our Mock results giving event, a true testament to how much you care about their progress. This was a chance for our students to celebrate and reflect on ways to improve, which is a very important step in preparing our students for the upcoming 'real' examination period. During the Easter holidays, we will be conducting intervention sessions for our Year 11s, and look forward to welcoming those who have chosen to come and study with us over the Easter break.

There are many exciting enrichment sessions taking place after school, and we strongly encourage all of our students to attend these sessions. As always, we ask for your support and encouragement with this.

I would like to introduce this term's edition of our school magazine, and to also celebrate and thank the hard work of the students, because this time the whole magazine has been written by students. Please follow this link [Newsletter](#) to see what has been happening at Outwood Academy Portland over the spring term.

We are excited for all students to return to the academy on **Monday 15th April**. We expect all of our students to be on-site from 08:15 ready to begin their first session. The students are allowed from the canteen, into the building at 08:15 and are supervised by their classroom teacher. I have become concerned this term that the number of students arriving late has increased. Please support your child by ensuring that they are arriving at school on time and ready to learn.

I am sure you will join me in reminding our students that we expect them to be in perfect uniform ready to learn. If you need to clarify any aspect of the uniform policy then please refer to pages 22 and 23 of the academy planner. I would also like to draw your attention to the expectations regarding jewellery, **makeup, nails, eyelashes** and hair. These expectations can also be confirmed on page 23 of the academy planner. The Academy uniform should not be altered in any way, for example by adding a draped jumper, clips, badges or stickers. Skirts must not be adapted; this includes folding them over at the top or tying a bobble around the waistband. Trousers must not be taken in to reduce the width of the leg. Girl's tights must be a minimum of 40 denier. Blazer sleeves must not be rolled up. **School shoes must be plain black, no trainers, no Vans, no Converse, no boots, no pumps or canvas shoes, no Vivien Westwood style shoes.** **Shoes should be of a material that can be polished.** A polite reminder that cans of fizzy drinks and lollipops are not allowed as part of packed lunch. We do have some children who have nut allergies too, if at all possible, can I ask for your support in ensuring that students avoid bringing nuts into the academy.

I hope that you have a peaceful and restful Easter break. I am very much looking forward to welcoming all of our students back into the academy Monday 15th April for what promises to be an exciting term of learning and discovery.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "D Sheehan". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Danielle Sheehan  
Principal