

**Belong. Believe. Be Proud.**

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@TKASA  
Principal: Mr Dan Milford



Ref: DM/SAH

May 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

I write to you in the middle of a very busy term with so much happening for staff and students. I know it goes without saying that we are immensely proud of our school and our students who strive to get it right every day, and I thank you for all your support to our school.

### School Updates

This term sees our Year 10 students go out on work experience during the week of **15th-19th May**. This is a very valuable week for them where they experience the world of work first hand. Due to the great work of Mrs Govier, our Careers Coordinator, the students and you as families supporting the applications, we are pleased to say that every Year 10 student has secured a WEX placement for the week. If you have any questions regarding work experience please email Mrs Govier who would be happy to help you.

This year we are launching 'Teacher for a Day' where we invite anyone who is interested in joining the profession and training with TPLT to come and find out more. This is an opportunity for graduates to find out more about life in the classroom and affords them the opportunity to train on the job. This Friday 12th May will be our first 'Teacher for a Day' event hosted at TKASA, with more similar dates to come over the next 6-12 months across our Trust.

As we move toward the end of term and indeed another academic year, can I remind you that we have so many things to look forward to between now and July; Sports Day, the school production of 'We Will Rock You', Year 11 and 13 Proms and Leavers Events, Sixth Form Charity RAG Week, trips to the theatre, Field trips and plenty more. Life at TKASA never stands still as we continue to provide our children with the best possible opportunities.

### Attendance

As we enter the summer months, can I remind everyone of the importance of attendance for all students. Here at TKASA our aim is always full attendance, whilst we realise that things happen and children are ill, we would encourage you all to ensure that your son/daughter aims for 100% attendance each term.

Over the next few months and into next academic year, we will have a real drive on attendance and we really need your support as parents/carers to help us. The correlation between students' attendance and performance at GCSE/A Level exams is indeed very powerful. A student with 90% attendance will miss at least one month off school per year, equating to approximately 100 lessons. This will have a massively detrimental effect on their learning which will obviously impact their academic outcomes.

### Summer Term Exams

With the summer exams now fast approaching, final preparations are well underway to support our students in Years 11 and 13. If you are a parent of a Year 11 or Year 13 student, please do encourage your child to attend P6 sessions as and when they are available. As staff, we will all do our utmost to support the Year 11 and 13 students over the next six weeks of exams and I would ask that you really do encourage your son/daughter to prepare themselves as best as possible at home in regard to their revision process, sleeping and eating habits and, of course, valuable and planned rest time. If you have any questions regarding the upcoming exams, please speak with Mrs Pickford who is the leadership team member responsible for exams.

### Parents' Evenings

Talking to parents and hearing parent voice is very important to us, with Parents Evenings being one of the ways in which we have the opportunity to do this. As you will be aware, we were not able to hold the Year 7 Parents Evening as planned, due to the national strike action, however **it will now be taking place on Wednesday 24th May.**

This Year 7 Parent Evening will be a face to face one, rather than an online version, so can I please ask parents/carers of Year 7 to ensure they sign up for appointments through our booking system which has already been advertised. It will be great to see you all in school that evening.

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**Year 12 Parents Evening will be online and takes place on Thursday 18th May.**

### **Year 6 Transition**

We held a very successful Welcome Evening for the upcoming parents of Year 6 students last week. Plans are underway for our Year 6 Transition programme and Parent/Carer evening in late June for all year 6 students from our feeder schools. These transition days are such a positive and rewarding few days and gives the opportunity for our new students, due to start with us in September, to experience TKASA before they arrive after the Summer holidays. Our numbers of applications for next academic year are high and this has meant that we are increasing our intake for September in order for us to accommodate the high volume of applications. This is the second year running that we have done this and is testament to the success of our school.

Any Year 6 Parents/Carers requiring more details, please visit our website, where there is a bespoke Transition Tab for all the information required.

### **Options**

Year 9 Option forms are now in and your child should be aware of their option choices for next year. Please speak to your child's tutor if you need any clarification on choices.

### **Uniform**

As we move into the summer months, with the hope of much warmer weather over the coming weeks, can I ask that you all continue to send your child into school dressed smartly and within the guidelines. Leggings are not permitted as students should wear school trousers, skirts must be knee length, tailored knee length shorts are permitted, trainers of any description, except all black leather e.g Nike Air Force, are not allowed and blazers and ties are compulsory.

### **Staff will challenge incorrect uniform, untucked shirts and/or skirts that are too short.**

If students arrive in school incorrectly dressed we will issue the correct uniform to students from our Pre-Loved Uniform store or from additional stocks we have at school. If a student refuses to adhere to the uniform dress code and/or refuses to wear uniform that is lent to them, we will contact you to ask for your support. High standards of uniform are really important to us at TKASA and, as always, we need your support in ensuring our expectations are upheld each day.

### **Strike Action**

At the time of writing, we have no planned strike days for school staff this term. If anything changes, we will keep you informed and also inform you of how/if the days affect your child.

### **Communication**

This is a reminder to sign up for WEDUC and class charts if you have not already done so. The majority of our direct communication with parents goes via these portals and I would not want you to miss vital information regarding school and school life. As you know, our good news stories are communicated through social media so please look out for interesting news on social media too.

I really hope you have a great summer ahead as we wait for the warmer weather to arrive!!! I will, of course, update you all further in Term 6 with, no doubt, more exciting news of what has been going on at TKASA in May and June.

As always, thank you for your continued support to the school, if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us via the usual channels.

Yours faithfully



Dan Milford  
Principal