

19th February 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you have all enjoyed a great half term with your families, and that our young people are ready for Term 4.

I would like to thank you for your support for what we are doing to develop a calm and purposeful school environment at The Portsmouth Academy. I know that you expect the atmosphere in the Academy to be one where all young people can be their best selves, achieve academic success and enjoy everything that school has to offer. This is where our core values of *Aspire, Achieve and Respect* stem from and, as a helpful refresher, you can view our conduct and behaviour policies by [clicking here](#).

After listening to your feedback last term and in line with our robust school improvement plans, we have taken the following actions:

- **Enhanced our security** - During last term, we strengthened security measures and enhanced staff and security presence at our school gates during both morning and afternoon. This aims to provide an extra layer of security, ensuring the safety of our staff and students as they enter the school premises and enabling them to seek assistance when necessary. You will now see a newly established perimeter fence to further reduce the risk of intruders.
- **Launched the 'Hands Off' Campaign** - The launch of our 'Hands-Off' Campaign aimed at promoting a culture of respect and encouraging better behavioural habits among our students.
- **Increased support to our safeguarding and inclusion provision** - We have increased staffing and resources in our Safeguarding and Inclusion provision to ensure students are receiving the right support for their wellbeing and safety.
- **Celebrated student success** - We are pleased to share that a number of our students consistently adhere to our rules, approaching school with the right mindset to aspire and learn. As we ended last term, we celebrated the achievements of more than 400 students who attained 100% attendance and 100% positive behaviour.

This term, we will be hosting a Parent Forum to share more details about the work we are doing to continually improve The Portsmouth Academy for the benefit of your child and as a space for you to ask any questions you may have. The Forum will take place on Tuesday 12th March from 4pm to 5pm in the main school hall. To attend, please fill out the [form](#) and submit any questions you may have. We will then answer your concerns during the session.

Please be aware, I won't be able to address individual issues in an open forum, but you can schedule direct meetings to discuss specific concerns on a case-by-case basis by completing the [following form](#). In order for the forum to function smoothly, we kindly ask parents to keep in mind our [Parent Conduct Policy](#).

If you are unable to attend the forum, I will write to parents and carers afterwards with a summary of the discussions and actions we intend to take together as we continue to support The Portsmouth Academy on its path to improvement.

I look forward to meeting many of you in person, and working in partnership to provide a good education for our children and young people.

Yours sincerely,



Mandy Gage
Director of Culture and Development