



Outwood Grange Academy

Potovens Lane, Outwood
Wakefield, West Yorkshire, WF1 2PF
Tel: +44(0)1924 204350

Web: www.grange.outwood.com
Email: enquiries@grange.outwood.com

Principal: Mr Brian Kelly

16 June 2020

Dear parents and carers,

This week marks the start of our Academic Tutorials with Y10 and Y12 students in response to the Government's guidance. It has been wonderful to see students arrive on site to meet with teaching staff; students have conducted themselves impeccably following all the guidelines for a safe and secure environment. Having not seen them for nearly 3 months, staff have relished the chance to have conversations about wellbeing, engagement, learning and support them with next steps. Following their tutorial, each student has been emailed a copy of their personalised action plan setting out how they need to approach their Google Classroom work in the next two weeks until their second tutorial.

This week the Google Guardians facility will go live. When a guardian accepts an invitation, they get regular emails about their child's work and classes. These emails, known as guardian summaries, include information about missing work, upcoming work, and class activity. A google form has been put into the VMG classroom, as the student has to consent to their data being shared, therefore they have to enter the guardian's e-mail. Please talk to your child about setting this up. After you accept the invitation, you get regular email summaries of your student's work. If you feel they have deleted the email, please let the VMG tutor know and we can re-issue the form. Please be aware that the student Google email function does not allow them to email staff directly - all communication should be done via the Google Classroom.

As an academy, we are acutely aware of the importance of maintaining direct contact with all students, but particularly those in Years 7, 8 and 9 who continue with remote learning. Over the last 15 weeks we have developed various resources and facilities to provide this, whether it be through the VMG Programme classroom; the weekly VMG check-in forms, the Mindfulness Classrooms or the ongoing contact between teachers, students, parents and carers. Our Inclusion team has made over 1200 phone calls to our most vulnerable children and the Academy has remained open for the children of key workers and those classed as vulnerable.

This week we are launching our 'VMG Contact Classroom' with all Key Stage 3 and 4. All students have now received an invite from their VMG tutor which they need to accept. From now on, the VMG tutor will upload the 'Weekly Student Check-In' in this classroom and will offer pastoral support for any student who needs it. The wider 'VMG Programme Classroom' still remains an important part of our provision. This classroom is where students can view our weekly assemblies; take part in a wide range of spiritual, moral, social and cultural activities; read our Student Bulletin 'Stay Connected' and hear important messages from staff.

Can I take this opportunity to thank all parents/carers for their continued support with remote learning. The last 15 weeks have brought both challenge and inspiration in equal measure, and staff have been overwhelmed by the manner in which students have responded to this very difficult time. As yet, we do not know what the educational provision will look like in September but we are already working on a number of different models to ensure we continue to provide the best and safest learning environment possible.

If you do need to contact the Academy, our reception is now staffed each day between 8.30am and 2.30pm. Please do not press any of the option buttons as these are not available; instead, if the receptionist is unavailable, leave a voicemail (use the 'hold for reception option') and we will either return your call or forward your query to the appropriate member of staff. Likewise, the 'Contact Us' function is still available on the Academy website.

Yours faithfully

Suzie Day
Vice Principal

Outwood Grange Academies Trust, a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales with company number 06995649.

Registered office address: Potovens Lane, Outwood, Wakefield, West Yorkshire WF1 2PF.

VAT number: 158 2720 04. Outwood Grange Academies Trust is an exempt charity.

A list of Directors' names is open to inspection at our registered office.