

The Harefield Academy

Achievement through Active Learning

Northwood Way, Harefield, Uxbridge, Middlesex, UB9 6ET

T: 01895 822108 F: 01895 822414 E: info@theharefieldacademy.org

W: www.theharefieldacademy.org

Headteacher: Tash Moriarty BA PGCE



March 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for your attendance at the Year 10 Parents' Evening and for taking the time to fill in the School questionnaire. We really value your input and support. We look carefully at these questionnaires to help us to refine the experience the students have in The Academy and to support us in making further changes to improve the provision for students.

The feedback we received was really positive with parents/carers commenting that we are particularly strong in the areas below:

- The school keeps my child safe.
- The school informs me about my child's progress.
- The school helps me to support my child's learning.
- The school makes sure my child is well prepared for the future.

Some parents are concerned about the progress that their child is making. We share these concerns in some cases where we too feel that students are not progressing as rapidly as we would like them to and want to ensure that all students are supported swiftly in narrowing attainment gaps. As such we have ensured that our reporting and assessment process is very robust. Departments are moderating results on assessments and sharing with the Senior Leadership Team the next step interventions for students who are currently underperforming. We have a number of after school intervention sessions running for Year 10, so please do check on the website by following the link [here](#). We will be running a whole school mock examination timetable from 25th June to 7th July as practice for the real exams and to support students with revision techniques. This will also allow us to understand where students' weaknesses are and tailor interventions in Year 11 to ensure that any underperformance is dealt with before the final mock examination season in December 2018.

A few parents were also concerned about how we deal with behaviour. Since embedding the Ladder of Consequence in 2017, behaviour across The Academy has improved significantly. This is well borne out through behaviour and exclusion statistics as well as the feedback from students and numerous external visitors/inspectors. In Year 10 in particular we have seen one of the greatest improvements in behaviour with more rewards and significantly less sanctions. This is however, still a major focus for all staff at The Academy. This year we have appointed Standards and Achievement Leaders for all year groups and their role is to focus on academic progress, allowing Student Managers to have more focussed time to support with behaviour and pastoral needs. This is already having an impact and as the year progresses you should see that the behaviour continues to improve.

A small number of parents/carers felt that we do not take account of their suggestions and concerns. We always welcome feedback and Parents' Evening questionnaires form a key part of this. We share and consider all feedback we receive at senior leadership level and run termly Parent Forum meetings as an opportunity to capture any specific queries or concerns that may have been missed via other communication channels during the year. These are responded to directly as well as via a follow up letter to all parents. If you do have concerns or suggestions, please do contact us at The Academy so that we can support you as quickly as possible. You can speak to your child's Form Tutor or Mrs White,



Student Manager at twhite@theharefieldacademy.org or alternatively Mrs Owusu, Standards and Achievement Leader, at oowusu-appiah@theharefieldacademy.org. If they are unable to resolve your concerns then you can also contact me at The Academy at htimmins@theharefieldacademy.org.

We have a clear plan to help the students have a good quality education at The Harefield Academy and a major part of that is engagement with parents and carers. So please do get in touch if you have any concerns or suggestions.

Please also remember that our reason for focussing on attitudes to learning and homework in reports is because this is what will make the most significant impact on outcomes. Students working below an average effort score of 3 are highly unlikely to meet their targets and your support in addressing this is of huge importance.

Please be reminded that students in Year 10 should be studying for at least 1.5 hours every night and that this is best supported by:

- Structured revision and homework planning.
- A quiet place to work at home (where this is not possible, students are encouraged to use the library).
- When studying, devices like phones should be put away to avoid distractions.
- Healthy eating and sleeping patterns.
- Parental monitoring of study time and completion of tasks.
- Communication with the school where there are concerns.

It is also really important that attendance stays above 97% as missing lessons has a detrimental effect on outcomes when students reach Year 11.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Timmins
Deputy Headteacher