

Open Academy Update 9 September 2022

Dear Parents/Carers and students.

Welcome, or welcome back to all for the new academic year.

My only focus this week is on the sad announcement of the death of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II. As a community, our thoughts and prayers are with her family at this difficult time.

The students have had time to reflect and pray for the Queen this morning and Mark, our Chaplain, is always available to give support and encouragement to students or indeed anyone in our community, who may be affected by this news or where it might act as a reminder about loss from their own lives. The pastoral team are also always here for your child no matter what the issue.

We would like to remind you that we will remain open throughout the period of public mourning. It is likely that the day of the Queen's funeral will be a public holiday and therefore schools will be closed on that day. Once we know more, we will write to you again.

As we all come to terms with what happened, we know that some children will be affected by this in particular. We will keep the school routine as normal as possible, allowing the children opportunities to talk if they want to.

If you need any further advice on how to support your child, you may wish to access one of the bereavement charities such as Winston's Wish - giving hope to grieving children (winstonswish.org), Child Bereavement UK or Nelson's Journey, Child Bereavement Help for Norfolk (nelsonsjourney.org.uk). If your child needs extra support, please let us know.

With thoughts and prayers.

Jon Ford – Principal



Uniform

A reminder that hoodies are not part of the school uniform. If there are any problems with uniform please contact your year team or form tutor.

All students in Years 7, 8 and 9 will need to have a pair of trampoline style grip socks for their drama lessons. Those that are happy to continue working barefoot are welcome to do so.

Library

We are currently collecting student feedback on what clubs they would like in the library this year. We encourage students to visit the library OR complete the following online form to give their feedback:

<https://forms.office.com/r/uNXkZX1eFJ>.

This poll will close on Thursday, 15 September. A full timetable will be shared once we have collected all the responses.

The library will be closed after school next week on Monday, 12 September and Tuesday, 13 September for staff training.