

Headteacher: Miss Jayne Scattergood Address: St Andrew's View Derby DE21 4ET

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Friday 12th January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

It is my pleasure to write my first letter to you as the new Headteacher of the Da Vinci Academy. Over the past week, I have been overwhelmed by the welcome I have received from staff and students alike which demonstrates the strong community spirit of the school. Students are well presented, friendly, polite and hardworking and they, quite rightly, are proud of their academy.

On Monday, I led assemblies to all year groups explaining what they could expect from me as their new Headteacher but also but what I expected from them in return. I have asked students to focus on three key areas;

- Being **ambitious** in their goals, working hard in lessons to develop key skills (reading and writing) and knowledge with a focus on valuing precious learning time in lessons,
- Developing **resilience** in themselves by having a clear sense of direction, developing self confidence and self-esteem, being adaptable so they are able to cope when things change beyond their control and;
- Encouraging **pride** in themselves and their achievements in all areas of life from their own appearance and behaviour to being proud of their academy and the community it serves.

I hope that you will also discuss these areas with your child whilst at home and encourage them to develop and grow in these key areas which will help them to achieve their potential within school but also prepare them for adult life.

Year 11 parents evening took place last night and it was a pleasure to be able to meet some parents so soon, it is clearly evident to see the role our parents place in working in partnership with the academy regarding their child's academic progress.

The academy has exceptionally strong foundations but I would like to reassure you that I will continue to drive forward improvements to further enhance the educational experience for your child. My personal philosophy is that every child has the right to the very best educational experience and it is my commitment to deliver this for each and every child within the school so they are able to achieve both their personal and academic potential.

Over this half term the main focus will be on the consistency of standards (uniform, attendance, punctuality and behaviour) and realising the high expectations set out in the academy's policies. We place great emphasis on preparing our students for the professional world they will encounter upon leaving full time education; having such high standards in this area supports this aim.

I aim to further strengthen the home-academy partnership working practices and will be writing to you regularly on a fortnightly basis with key updates. Also, I will be holding a fornightly 'Headteacher Clinic'





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where parents/carers are able to book an appointment to meet with me to discuss matters arising. These will take place from 4.30-5.30pm and anyone who wishes to book a meeting should contact Emma Graham by phone or email (<u>emma.graham@davinciacademy.co.uk</u>) as I anticipate these will be sought after.

I look forward to building strong relationships with all stakeholders within the local community and working in partnership to ensure your child is able to achieve their hopes and dreams for the future.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Jayne Scattergood Headteacher

Key Dates for your Diary

15-19 th January	Year 9 Options Taster week
25 th January	Year 9 Options and Parents evening 4-7pm
26 th January	Year 9 Options window opens
9 th February	Year 9 Options window closes
13 th February	Inspiration Day 1
16 th February	School closes for half term break
26 th February	School re-opens for Spring half term 2

