

Monday 3rd January 2022

Dear parents and carers.

May I wish you a very happy new year. As we start our journey into 2022, I hope that you are all well and ready to face all the adventures and challenges that each new year brings.

## 2021

Looking back over the past 12 months, we can be grateful for so much:

- That your children make our jobs amazing every day.
- That you have worked with us so carefully to ensure that we are not overwhelmed by the challenges faced during the pandemic.
- That you have shown such commitment and support: filling in our parent surveys and helping us to raise £1000 towards new playground equipment.
- That our academy continues to improve thanks to the care and dedication shown by the whole community.

Thank you for all you do.

## 2022

As we go into 2022, we will continue our drive to improve and as in previous years, we will minimize the impact of Covid as much as we can. We intend to encourage you to be in school (as the virus allows) and to share with you the improvements made. However, we are facing a difficult time as more people are having to self-isolate due to the Omicron strain. As we return, we will be short of staff but we will be able to open.

### How can you help?

- Please use the one-way system around school when bringing and collecting your children.
- Please wear a face covering when on the school grounds and if invited into the building.
- Please maintain your distance.
- Please encourage your children to attend both the tutor clubs (if invited) and the additional clubs (for all) that will be on offer from Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January.
- Please share books with your children on a daily basis.
- Please get involved in school life.

### Volunteer

If you would like to volunteer to support our readers in school, please ask at Reception. You will need to have a clear enhanced DBS check and be able to provide 2 references (these can be personal references); you will be able to start as soon as the paper work has been sorted.

**Star Academy Sandyford** Burnaby Road, Sandyford, Stoke on Trent, ST6 5PT.

Principal: Mrs Kate Wildman Executive Principal: Mrs Bobbie Caisley

T: 01782 235055 E: office@staracademy.atrust.org.uk W: www.staracademy.atrust.org.uk



EMPLOYER RECOGNITION SCHEME

SILVER AWARD

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### **Be Kind**

Your children are watching everything you do and learning from how you speak to us and each other. Set them the best example and be kind.

We know that sometimes, you need to talk to us about things. We are more than happy for you to approach us to tell us the good and the bad but please be kind.

We know that you do not always get on with the other adults on the yard, if you fall out, please do not bring your grievances into school. Set the right example for your children please.

### **Attendance and Lates**

It is vitally important that your children attend the academy every day. They have already lost learning through lockdowns and we are doing everything that we can to make sure that they are not behind. Every time your child has a day off without being poorly you affect their education further. If you struggle to get your children into school, call us and we will help but please do not give in to them. Please do not keep them off school because you want them at home.

Bringing your children to school late means that they miss the first learning of the day. Just 10 minutes a day means a whole session lost per week.

Children get upset when they are late. They also get upset when they do not understand learning due to missed days. Neglecting their education will affect their life chances as they get older. During the start of the new year, if your child's attendance is low, you will be invited into school to an attendance clinic where we will discuss how to support the attendance of your child. Failure to support them will result in a fine. School starts at 8:50am. Doors open at 8:40am.

### **Collection**

The academy day ends at 3:15pm and 3:10pm for Nursery. We are having increasing numbers of parents turning up late for their children. It is upsetting for a child to be left at school. Please collect your children on time.

### **How we can support you**

Life can be tough, especially in January when the dark nights and shortage of money can affect mental health. If you need any help, please contact us in school. Mrs. Lewis and Mrs. Williams (Tuesday and Thursday) are here to support you with any issues that you may have.

We look forward to seeing you all, on time, on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022 for the start of our new term.

Kind regards,

K Wildman (Principal)

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