



21st June 2022

Dear Parents, Carers and Families

June updates from Farnborough Spencer Academy

I am writing to let you know about some important dates and changes at the Academy over the next few weeks as we head towards the summer. There is a lot of information in this letter, so please take the time to read it carefully.

Next week we have our rewards trips and drop-down days. This means that students will be able to go on a trip of their choice as well as receive their careers and PSHE opportunities which are so crucial to their personal development. These take place on **Monday 27th and Tuesday 28th June**. On **Wednesday 29th June**, we will be holding our annual sports day. We have not been able to do this since 2019, and we can't wait to see our students competing and enjoying the day.

On **Thursday 30th June and Friday 1st July**, we have staff INSET days. This means the Academy will be **closed to students on these days**. Students will return to the Academy as normal on Monday 4th July for the rest of term.

Before heading into all the information, I would like to say thank you to parents and carers of Year 11. Your children have been through so much since 2020, and we are so proud of the efforts they, and you, have put in. We look forward to celebrating with them at their Prom next week.

Changes to the behaviour policy

To continue to raise the standards of behaviour, we are making a subtle change to the behaviour policy.

We are grateful that the vast majority of parents, carers and families work with the Academy to ensure that their child meets the expectations we have of our young people – set out in our student pledge, which was written by our students and is agreed by them with their parents, carers and families. Unfortunately, this is not always the case for some students, and we need to take additional action to support all of our young people to ensure that disruptive behaviour by the few does not damage the achievements of the many. This creates a supportive environment which allows pupils to flourish.

Students who receive a C3 On Call, will be removed from their classroom (as we currently do) and will now receive a **same day, 60-minute afterschool detention (you will be informed)**. This will take effect from 4th July. Before this, we will also ensure students are fully aware of the new policy and procedures.

The Academy's policy for Behaviour and Exclusions will be amended as follows from September 2022:

- Students who are removed from their classroom following a C3 On Call will automatically receive a same day, 60-minute (C3 On Call) detention at 3.00pm.
- If a student already has a detention that day, the C3 On Call detention will be added to the length of sanction already being served.
- **Parents will be notified on the day of the detention.**

We appreciate your support with this change. Please do contact your child's Head of Year with any questions.



Changes to the school day

To accommodate the implementation of Farnborough Reads sessions (more detail below), and to continue to support the improvement of behaviour across the Academy, we have made a change to the school day which will take effect on Monday 4th July. The start and end time of the day remain the same. Students should be lined up by 8:35am, and the Academy will finish at 3pm as normal.

Some lessons have been reduced by 5 minutes which will allow for the Farnborough Reads session which will be delivered first thing in the morning, and also allow for a new tutor time session to be delivered at lunch time each day. This will increase the challenge and pace of lessons as well as allowing students to have a pastoral session in the middle of the day, supporting their wider development. Full details will be available on our Academy website shortly.

Farnborough Reads

From Monday 4th July, we are introducing an exciting change to our curriculum. We are very proud of "Farnborough Reads" and are excited to be able to start this new initiative on Monday July 4th.

Farnborough reads is a 20-minute session every morning where your child will take part in shared reading. Staff will model how to be excellent readers. This will help our students improve their reading ability. This will have knock on effects on what they achieve and will enable them to pursue their dreams.

Why do we need to do this? Supporting young people with their reading will lead to improved academic outcomes and give them greater options when they leave Farnborough. Our research, and work with other schools has shown that this approach will have a huge impact on students in all areas of their school life.

Our reading curriculum is designed to ensure that the students experience a wide range of literature across the year. Reading books that are iconic, biographical/autobiographical, historical, political/dystopian, science/fiction, books highlighting diversity and books containing important but challenging topics. Each year's reading curriculum will build on the previous year's reading curriculum.

All of this will support the development of our young people as they grow into adults. It will continue to support the reading that you do at home, the independent reading that they do and the additional reading that they do in school. Children in years 7, 8 and 9 will continue to have a reading lesson once a week where they will choose the book they read.

More information about Farnborough Reads will be available on our website soon.

Thank you for your support in all these matters. Working together with parents, we know we are continuing to improve Clifton's Academy for our entire community.

Yours faithfully

Graeme Smith
Principal