



23rd September 2022

Dear parents, carers and families,

Start of term

I am writing to thank you for your support at the start of term. We have had a lovely start to the year, and our new students have settled in really well. This has been typified by our Year 7 evening where parents and families got to meet with tutors last night. We had some lovely feedback and are really proud of the way that our young people have settled into their Academy life.

Other year groups have also started strongly, and it's been great to see students settling in to the routines that we have, including Farnborough Reads which is becoming such a strong part of our academy life together. If you weren't aware, Farnborough Reads is where our students are read to as a group each morning. We explore different themes, including local history, inspirational people, diversity etc. It sets the day off really well, and helps students increase their understanding of key words and context.

Exam results 2022

We have celebrated a fantastic set of results in this year's GCSE examinations. This year's cohort have coped really well in the most extraordinary circumstances over the last three years. The vast majority of students have risen to the challenge and achieved a set of results that are amongst the best the academy has ever had. Farnborough Spencer Academy saw improvements across the board, especially in the academic subjects of English, science, history, geography and maths, including at the very highest level.

That said, Farnborough is an Academy where students follow a broad and balanced curriculum. We are proud of our young people who excel in more vocational subjects such as Art, Photography, Sport and Catering.

Star student Angel achieved a bumper set of top grades, including 2 grade 9s and 4 grade 8s, and she is now heading to study Biology, Chemistry and Maths at Rushcliffe Spencer Academy and intends to study medicine at university. She was joined by Mahmood, Saffron and Siobhan who also secured the highest grades. Siobhan is heading to college to study Applied science, with the aim of studying Forensics at university. Mahmood and Saffron are also going to Rushcliffe Spencer to complete A Levels.



WE ARE
Proud



We must celebrate the achievements of all our young people this year. They have shown remarkable resilience and determination. We look forward to hearing of their progress as they move to the next stage in their education.

Focus now turns to our new Year 11s, who have made a wonderful start to their final year with us.

Year 6 Open evening

Wednesday 5th October is our annual open evening. This will be a chance for parents, carers and families to come and see Clifton's secondary school in action. We are proud of the work we do in our community and would love to see you there. The meeting will start at 4:30pm and will run till 7:00pm. I will be giving talks throughout the evening. Last year, we didn't have space for everyone that attended so we have added an extra talk this year.

We will also be holding some open day (morning and afternoon) events during the Academy day – watch this space for more details of those.

Academy places

Related to this, I am pleased to report that the academy is currently full in all years, except Year 7 where we have a few places remaining. If you, or someone you know, would like to join the Academy, you should contact the Academy office and we will be able to organise an interview if there are spaces or add you to our waiting list if there aren't

Ofsted September 2022

You will be aware that Ofsted has visited our academy over the last two days (21st and 22nd September). This was the first inspection since the Academy joined the Spencer Academies Trust in 2018, and the first since the predecessor school was inspected in 2017.

If you took the time to complete the parent survey, thank you. It was very positive and the inspectors took your views into account.

It was a tiring, but fair, process and your children and our staff have done our community proud. I am not allowed to share feedback until the report is published, but I wanted to let you know that the report should be published in the next few weeks.

Yours faithfully,

Mr G Smith

Principal