



Friday 11th June 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, I would like to pay tribute and deliver huge thanks to the Pool Hayes community in my first week for making me feel welcome and proud to be a part of Pool Hayes.

Expectations

We have been challenging and supporting students this week to be the best they can be. First impressions are important and I have to commend both you and your child on their standards of uniform and conduct this week across the academy. Of course, not every child has managed to meet our high expectations but our staff are supporting all students to present themselves professionally and to be academy ready as soon as they enter the gates of Pool Hayes. I am delighted to say that a vast majority of our students have excellent uniform and coming from another school, this has been a truly impressive feature of Pool Hayes. For me standards of uniform are incredibly important. I believe we should pick up and support students in getting the little aspects of their academy lives right in order to help them feel confident that no bigger issues arise. It has been brilliant seeing students correct their uniform themselves and understand the importance around presentation and taking pride in their work. I will make no apologies for having the highest expectations for our students and I already know that they want Pool Hayes to be a truly great academy.

Covid-19

We have seen a reduction in the number of cases this week. Can you please continue to support your child to self-test on Sunday and Wednesday evenings. This is crucial in keeping our academy and community safe and again I thank you for your continued support with this.

Centre Assessed Grades Y11 and Y13

As we prepare to submit our Centre Assessed Grades we will be sending out more information on our appeals process in due course. In the meantime, I have been impressed and I am confident that Pool Hayes has a robust, transparent and fair process in place to determine your child's grades. As you are aware, results days for Year 13 is on the 10th August and for Year 11 it is on the 12th August. Again, we will send out more details closer to the time. If I could ask you to read the Special Circumstances Statement on our website (link below), which explains how we have adjusted our assessments given the disruption caused by Covid-19. As the statement explains we have taken into account Covid related absences and other relevant factors that may have affected your child's academic year. However, if you would like to make us aware of anything else that has happened this year please email office@poolhayes.atrust.org.uk with the subject title 'Centre Assessed Grade'.

<https://poolhayes.atrust.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/25/2021/06/CAGs-Special-Circumstances-Statement.pdf>



Survey

In case you missed my email on Monday I sent out a survey to gather your thoughts and ambitions for your child at Pool Hayes. I will be closing the survey on Monday the 14th June at 5:00pm so if you haven't already, could you please use the link below to fill it in. It is a very short survey but I am going to use your views and those of staff and students to shape the vision and values of Pool Hayes from September. Thank you so much to the many of you who have already taken the time to do this.

<https://forms.gle/6eCoErghuzVAmMJcA>

I will be writing an update to families fortnightly to share the excellent work that I have seen and to ensure communication of key messages are clear. I have really enjoyed my first week at Pool Hayes and look forward to meeting you all in person when restrictions allow. There will be some 'Meet the Principal' events hopefully this side of the summer holidays but if not then definitely in September. Finally, I hope you all have a lovely weekend and I'm already looking forward to Monday to see your child thriving in lessons once again.

Yours Sincerely,



Mr T McDowall
Principal

