



The Deanery Church of England Academy
Peglars Way, Wichelstowe, Swindon SN1 7DA

T: 01793 236611
enquiries@dcea.org.uk
www.dcea.org.uk

Headteacher – Mrs Kelly Osborne-James
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Good afternoon,

It has been an exciting week of advancements. As a result of collaborative working between our dedicated staffing teams at The Deanery and from the Central DBAT Trust, we will have successfully appointed various teachers across the curriculum this week.

As you will be aware from my previous updates, recruitment and retention continues to be a golden thread that is underpinning our school improvement efforts and I hope it will provide some reassurance to you that the rewards of this will soon be impacting on the daily learning experiences of our students.

With thanks to the Trusts' Operations Team, we will now have dedicated and daily support to complement the supervision by The Deanery staff in opening the school gates at the end of the day and will also offer additional capacity on site.

I also want to offer my sincere thanks to those parents/carers who were able to attend the Car Parking Consultation evening meetings. Both Miss Bishop (Head of Kingfisher CE Primary) and I have benefitted from the feedback. We acknowledge there is much work to be done to guarantee the safety of our students not only in terms of car drop offs during the day, but the changes needed in terms of our bus services (including timings/pick up and drop off points/seating sufficiency).

The Academy Council were also represented at the meeting, and I am extremely grateful for the support they are providing to the school as we work collaboratively to achieving better outcomes for our students which must always centre around their safety. In terms of a summary, the campus car parks will remain open at the current time whilst the consultation is underway.

In the next few weeks, all students will be asked to complete a Travel Survey to assist us in accurately identifying not only how our young people travel to school but the barriers they face to various alternatives such as insufficient bike rack facilities. Thank you in advance of your support in completing this survey and helping us to provide the evidence for much needed change.

The school website this week has seen a refresh and an update from the English Faculty. Staff are also busily preparing for our Tutor Evening on the 22nd of November and our first Y11 revision session, more details to follow on this next week. Curriculum enrichment will also be discussed in next week's Head of Faculty meetings as we look to enhance our curriculum offer with more educational visits and trips.

I have already met with a considerable number of parents/carers and have been overwhelmed by your willingness to support and collaborate with the school.

Attendance

We continue our overall ongoing focus of whole school attendance. We have had a slight dip in attendance this week, compared to the same week last term. We know there are a few bugs going about, however we would like to draw your attention to the NHS guidance on school attendance [here](#)

The attendance team focus for Term 2 is start of school punctuality. Please be reminded that students should be in school for roll call by 8.45. If your child arrives later than 8.45 the gate will be closed, and a late mark given. Your partnership with improving punctuality and attendance is welcomed and encouraged.

Pastoral

We had Kelly Walker from Youth Resilience UK come into school this week to do some training with staff on restorative justice and how we can use this to support our young people. It will help us to help them to reflect on behaviours and how to avoid repeating negative patterns. You can find out more about them [here](#). We've also marked Anti-Bullying week with year group assemblies and odd sock day in school on Friday. On top of this we have awarded students with over **13500** house points this week. We will share the photos and the amount we collected from donations and the cake sale next week.

We will continue to work on punctuality and uniform and ask for parental support with this. Students must be in correct uniform and should not be wearing nose studs in school. Students will also be sanctioned if they do not attend their timetabled lessons unless an agreed plan is in place. It is important for their safety and their education that they are in the correct classrooms at the right time.

I hope that you have a wonderful weekend, and we look forward to the next few weeks, when we move into the excitement of Christmas and all this period brings.

Kind regards,

Mrs. Osborne-James