

August 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian

On behalf of the Governors of St Aidan's School can I welcome you and your son or daughter to the Associated Sixth Form. As you will be aware the Association has an impressive record in all matters relating to the education and development of students undertaking their Sixth Form courses. I am mindful of our continued responsibilities to the students in our care and committed to ensuring that every student is encouraged and challenged in their particular studies. These are difficult and demanding times within education but I can guarantee that we will work unstintingly to ensure that your child is provided with the highest quality of education to open up opportunities within the fields of Higher Education or employment.

The Governors have asked me to draw your attention to the following points upon which they would ask for your support.

- The uniform policy relating to the Associated Sixth Form is that students are required to dress in a way that conveys a smart impression, ie: for boys - collar and tie with smart and appropriately worn dark trousers and smart shoes; and for girls a dress or a shirt with smart trousers or skirt and shoes. Jeans of any colour are NOT an acceptable form of trouser. I am conscious that as a school we are preparing young people to make positive choices as they move towards adulthood and to that end I must ask for compliance with these requirements in a way that is decent and appropriate for young people as they move around and between the schools. Sixth Form students are role models for younger pupils and should be made aware that we shall be implementing a rigorous enforcement of this dress code for all Sixth Form students from September. Further guidance on appropriate dress code can be found in the Sixth Form section of the school website.
- The Association has introduced the requirement for all students to wear an identification badge and lanyard in response to the school's safety audit. This badge has now been linked with the printing of work as well as the purchase of food, borrowing of library resources and entry to the site. It is vitally important that lanyards are worn at all times to ensure the safety and well-being of all students in the school and action will be taken against any student who does not comply.
- I am aware that many students wish to use cars/motorbikes to come to school and whilst I cannot object to this I must stress that the cars are parked off-site and NOT used to travel between sites. I would also stress that vehicles should be parked in an appropriate and legal manner sensitive to the needs of local residents, ie not blocking entrance/exit to property, recognising the need for emergency vehicles to travel quickly and safely down any road and responding politely to requests made by householders or members of the public. Students bringing a vehicle to school must register the vehicle with the Sixth Form Office as soon as possible.

Finally I would respectfully point out that Sixth Form lessons are not in any way to be seen as optional and that attendance will be monitored closely by the Sixth Form Tutors and Attendance Officers. For those students whose attendance falls below 90%, action will be taken to ensure that they meet their academic targets as well as the required attendance levels.

I look forward to meeting you over the course of the next two years and of course am available at any time to discuss issues relating to your son or daughter.

Yours sincerely

J Wood
Headteacher – St Aidan's