

25th October 2024

Dear Families,

We are writing with an end-of-term update for Term 1, written specifically for our Sixth Form families. We are very pleased with the start we have made to the new academic year: our students have excelled in their learning and settled successfully back into the routines of school after the summer break. It was great to see so many parents, carers and family members at our parent information, tutor contact, presentation and Year 7 and Sixth Form open evenings over the course of this term, and to hear your messages of support and feedback to us.

## Academic Curriculum

We are thrilled to see our Year 12 students settling into Sixth Form so smoothly. Their study programmes are now finalised, and they are adapting to independent study with remarkable ease. In November, students will meet with their subject teachers to discuss their progress, helping to shape the target grades they aspire to achieve by the end of Year 13.

Our Year 13 students are diligently working on their applications for university and apprenticeships. Those applying for medicine, veterinary science, and Oxbridge have already submitted their applications to UCAS, and we wish them the very best of luck. The deadline for all other UCAS applications is December 1st. Apprenticeship opportunities are also being advertised, and interested students are invited to join an Apprenticeship group led by our Careers Advisor, Ms. McGonigal. Our dedicated tutor team is here to support students with their applications, ensuring they have the best chance of being accepted into their chosen pathways.

Additionally, our Year 13 students are preparing for their first round of mock exams, scheduled for December 2nd to 13th. During this time, they will have study leave, allowing them to focus on their revision. These mock exams

provide an excellent opportunity for students to identify areas of strength and receive support in the areas they are aspiring to improve.

## Wider Curriculum & Personal Development

Next term marks the exciting beginning of our 2024-2025 Impact Group cycle. Our Year 13 students will hand over leadership to the Year 12s, providing them with the opportunity to make a positive difference within the Sixth Form, the Academy, and the local community. These student-led groups are supported by dedicated tutors to ensure that participants develop essential leadership skills as they collaborate, plan initiatives, engage with the community, and mentor younger students. We are already seeing the emergence of new groups, including the 'Big Sister' Impact Group, which aims to promote positivity and support for younger female students while addressing the important issue of period poverty.

In our PSHE curriculum next term, we will focus on assessing and managing risk and personal safety across various contexts, including online environments. Students will learn to recognise and avoid online scams, understand the risks of gambling, and stay safe during the festive party season, with a particular emphasis on drink spiking.

Through the Year 12 Tutorial Programme, we will concentrate on health and wellbeing, covering topics such as sleep, nutrition, and effective revision strategies. Year 13 students will also prioritise revision and health and wellbeing, along with personal safety, specifically focusing on driving safety and exploring the values that define British citizenship in 2024.

Our new year of Sixth Form sports has kicked off on a high note, with the Churchill Boys football team celebrating a victory over Clevedon Boys. We eagerly anticipate the inter-school LSP dodgeball tournament next term. It has been wonderful to see our Year 12s enjoying their sports sessions, which include a diverse range of activities each week such as badminton, wellbeing walks, netball, and football. We look forward to continuing this momentum next term!

## Staffing update

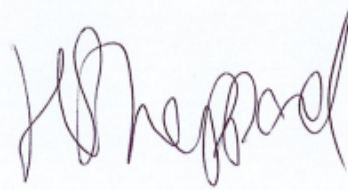
At the end of this term we say farewell to Natalie Jones, our Inclusion Coordinator, and to Shan Woodley, Science Technician. We thank them both for their contributions to the Academy and wish them well in the future.

Enjoy the half term break. We look forward to welcoming students back on Monday 4th November, for a timetable week one.

Yours sincerely,



Chris Hildrew  
Headteacher



Hannah Sheppard  
Head of Sixth Form