



Dear Parents and Carers

I wanted to take the opportunity to formally introduce myself, I am Mr Knapczyk the Assistant Head Teacher responsible for Behaviour and Personal Development. I also wanted to highlight some important issues moving forwards.

The Big Ask

You might be aware that the new Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza, has launched [The Big Ask](#). It is the largest survey of children and young people, which aims to find out children's concerns and aspirations about the future, so that we can put children at the heart of our country's recovery from the Covid-19 outbreak.

During registration this week students have been shown the following video ([The Big Ask](#)) outlining the importance of them taking part and having their say. Students have then been provided the link, by their tutor via Show My Homework, and encouraged to 'have their say'. Please could you support your child in completing the survey.

In addition to this, as parents and carers, it is just as important for you to share your thoughts and opinions about your children's future. Therefore, we ask that you take the time to complete the survey, from an adult's perspective by following this link - [The Big Ask - Adult Response](#).

Everyone's Invited

Following the correspondence from Mrs Frost-Briggs, we have delivered Personal Development lessons to all KS3 and 4 students highlighting and focusing on the "Everyone's Invited" agenda; a movement committed to eradicating rape culture and ensuring children feel safe to report issues of sexual abuse freely.

Within these lessons we have shared information and raised awareness of the national agenda by educating students on the key terms and by encouraging discussions on the topic through a range of mediums. These have included some quite thought provoking videos to develop their understanding of consent (for example - [Tea and Consent](#)).

In addition to raising awareness and understanding of the topic, we signposted the students in the right direction should they ever need to report any issue. This included the dedicated team of pastoral staff for their year group, details of which can be found on our website [here](#), as well as reminding them of how to make an anonymous referral through our SHARPS reporting system, which is on our website [here](#).

Uniform – Get Smart Intervention

Also within her letter, Mrs Frost-Briggs highlighted the desire to quickly return to high standards with regards to uniform. As per our [uniform policy](#), our priorities are to ensure students are wearing their uniform with pride and we ask for your help to reinstall some of the basics. We would like to ask for your support in ensuring your son/daughter does not come to school wearing a hoodie, trainers or any piercings above one single piercing in each ear. We would also ask nails, hair and makeup are natural-looking.

Over the course of next week, we will continue to challenge students failing to comply to the standards outlined in the policy; with the pastoral team working with students and yourselves to address and resolve any issues as swiftly as possible.

During registration, tutors will be raising concerns with the Pastoral Team and, between them, contact home will be made highlighting the issue and agreeing a timeframe for the situation to be resolved. As with mobile phones, we are now in the position to confiscate any banned/prohibited items while ensuring we adhere to the COVID safety measures. Confiscated items will be returned to the student at the end of the day, although parents/carers may be required to come into school and collect items for repeat offenders.

Cycling to School

Over the past couple of weeks, we have received a concerning number of reports with regards to student's conduct cycling to and from school. Concerns have included the manner in which the students are riding; swerving in and out of traffic in a dangerous fashion.

We have reiterated our expectations and safety aspects, including road safety, with the students through tutor time and Student Notices but we would appreciate if parents could reinforce these at home with your children.

Students identified as failing to follow these expectations, including not wearing a helmet, may be banned from cycling to school for their own safety.

As always, thank you for your continued support

Daniel Knapczyk

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniel Knapczyk', written in a cursive style.

Assistant Head Teacher