

WEATHERFIELD ACADEMY

Headteacher: Mr J Selmes

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17th October 2023

Dear Parents, Carers and Guardians

Parent/Consultation Evening

I am aware that some of you have already met with your child's tutor this week, as we are trying to be flexible to make sure we make contact with everyone regarding this first half term's engagement and structures for the young people at Weatherfield.

The main bulk of the meetings will take place this Wednesday 18th October. We will also have a number of partners, who work alongside us, attending to provide advice and guidance in preparing for adulthood. Included in the hall will be:

- Youth Services/Career Team
- Our Multi-Disciplinary Team
- Safeguarding
- Forest School
- Activities during holidays and school breaks
- Senior staff in the Academy

The majority of these services will be in the Hall from 5-7pm, as this is when the majority of appointments with staff will be. If you have already had a visit to see your child's tutor, please feel free to come back into school if you wish to see any of the providers mentioned.

Social Media Usage

Inappropriate use of social media continues to be a concern for us all in the school when speaking with our pupils. We continue to offer support and guidance during lessons on the dangers of the internet and inappropriate use. Staff have spent a great deal of their free time and during the working day, to assist where possible, the pupil or yourselves as parents, if you need further assistance.

I have continually looked to provide clear advice, guidance and links to well-established agencies. However, it remains a problem for some of our older pupils as they continue to be vulnerable when using the internet in speaking with friends or to strangers. I urge you to monitor your child's electronic devices. It is clear that some pupils have more than one account and often may use different names to get through some of the age barriers.

For any jobs in the community, companies often carry out internet searches and I would be very upset if some of our young people were not able to achieve employment in their future due to their misuse of social media through their teenage years.

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I have been made aware in some cases where the Law, which is very clear on internet use, may have been broken indirectly by our pupils, who do not understand the gravity of this misuse. Any information that we receive requires us to pass this onto the Police. This, through good monitoring by all of us, could be prevented. Although I am speaking mainly about our older pupils who use social media regularly, I am increasingly aware of some of our younger students, who are now involved in using such devices at home in the evenings, or at weekends. As in my first paragraph, there will be additional advice and guidance in the Hall on Wednesday regarding this.

Yours sincerely



Mr J Selmes
Head Teacher

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