

20 October 2016

Our Ref: ABR/LW



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Dear Parent/Carer

## End of Term 1

I am writing to thank you for your support throughout this very successful term. All students continue to look very smart and are well prepared for learning. Year groups that are preparing for examinations at the end of the academic year are extremely focused and there is a great sense of purpose around the College. Punctuality is much improved and I would ask that you continue to ensure your son or daughter is on the College site by 8.20 a.m. each day.

We were pleased to welcome HRH The Duchess of Gloucester to College last week. She toured the College and watched an excellent dance performance in the theatre before meeting the dancers. She also spoke with GCSE and A-level Technology students and some of our trainee teachers. The Duchess visited a Year 11 English lesson before meeting the Student Council. Representatives of the Council explained how the College contributes to the community and works with local and international charities. HRH was very impressed with the College and was extremely complimentary about the students she met during her visit.

Enrichment activities after College have proved to be very popular. We have a significant number of students using the Information Centre after College each night for homework and further study. A large number of students are participating in a wide range of exciting and engaging extracurricular events after College. Please find enclosed the updated Enrichment Timetable for term 2. Please encourage your son or daughter to attend as many enrichment sessions as possible.

The College gives online safety the highest priority and I would again like to draw your attention to the following websites which can support parents in ensuring their children are using the internet in a safe and productive manner. The UK Safer Internet Centre (<http://www.saferinternet.org.uk>) has produced some very useful resources, including information on the latest social networking sites young people are using. The Educate against Hate (<http://educateagainsthate.com>) website provides useful advice regarding the potential risks of online radicalisation and extremism and how parents and carers can help keep young people safe online.

The College has invested in online safety technology, e-Safe, which monitors students' computer and internet usage and flags up any concerns immediately to designated staff, allowing them to intervene and support our young people.

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As winter approaches and it gets dark earlier, I would also ask that you remind your sons and daughters to ensure they use the safe routes on the way home from College. College staff are on duty on routes into Derby City Centre at the end of the day, but when students are leaving College after enrichment sessions it is vital that they only travel on well-lit main roads and do not use short cuts.

Many thanks for your support this term and I wish you and your families a restful and peaceful break.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'A Brannick', written in black ink.

Ms A Brannick  
Principal