



Dear Parents/Carers

On Monday 1st October we finally converted to be part of the South Pennine Academies. The Trust welcomed us to their partnership and we are delighted to be part of this successful and supportive community, focused upon improving the life chances of students.

What does this mean to us?

South Pennine Academies offer a huge range of professional development and support for staff, which they will now be entitled to and a whole host of opportunities are opened up for our students. Our Year 11 students are already scheduled to attend 3 conferences with the other Y11s in the Trust, with guest speakers focused upon getting them successfully through their exams. They will work alongside the students from our local cluster school Moor End Academy, which is Outstanding by Ofsted's judgement and holds National Support School Status.

All our middle leaders are now enrolled on the National Professional Qualification for Middle Leaders and our Senior Leader have embarked upon the National Professional Qualification for Senior Leadership via the Trust. The Trust's School Effectiveness Team (a team of Specialist Leaders in Education) is already engaged in supporting standards across the School. All our new staff are receiving a rigorous induction both from the team here at Park Lane and the Trust's team of Specialist leaders in Education.

Park Lane has never seen such an investment into raising standards of professional development in its history and all this will pay dividends in both the quality of teaching in the classroom and leadership in the School.

Park Lane Academy is a transforming school. **In the past 12 months alone, we have raised results in 60% of subject areas and Science and Maths GCSE results increased by almost 20%.** This is a huge achievement which we are very proud of and shows a huge improvement to the results achieved in 2017. We making rapid progress and addressing the issues which had been historically embedded in the school over time.

Following the slow start to the day on Wednesday, we have addressed some of your concerns.

Firstly, all children will have the opportunity to be given a free set of equipment next week in school, including a black pen, a green pen, a pencil and a ruler. School will absorb the cost of this.

Secondly, students are now entering school via different doors to ensure a quick entry.

Thirdly, we did have some parents/carers who said they did not receive a text message from school and therefore, we ask that you to contact the Academy to ensure we have the most up to date contact details for you if you did not receive a text message. Contact should be

made via the admin email address on the website admin@parklane.calderdale.sch.uk. We apologise if you did not receive the School's message.

Fourthly, we would like to clarify that students are allowed coats and are simply asked to remove them whilst inside the building. We have lockers throughout the building which students may put their coats in. Keys can be purchased from admin to this end.

Finally, we are updating the website and student planners re expectations and apologise that the full information was not available.

Immediately after half term, our enrichment rota will commence offering part of the Park Lane Pledge. All students will have the opportunity after half term, to learn British Sign Language. There are also running clubs, singing clubs, Science clubs, crochet clubs, games clubs and drum clubs amongst many others ready for your children to commence. Please encourage them to attend.

Finally, we would like to thank publicly the group of parents who sent us a huge beautiful bouquet of flowers with the message '*From a group of parents who appreciate the support you give our children*'. This is very much appreciated and we know that, whilst change always brings about uncertainty, we will get Park Lane Academy to where it is meant to be.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lisa Corrigan', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Lisa Corrigan
Principal