

6 November 2020

Dear parent/carers

Re: Blending Learning, Home Learning, Class Charts and Communication

As we adapt to our new way of working, we are continually exploring ways to improve our lines of communication, simplify our systems and ensure that all of our students have access to the very best learning opportunities both inside and outside of the Academy. Below, I outline some of the key changes:

As of this half-term, we will no longer be using Show My Homework. Instead, all of our communications are moving to Class Charts. Class Charts is a system that allows us to communicate, provide alerts and keep you informed with updates related to:

- Home Learning
- Behaviour incidents
- Rewards and recognition
- Attendance information.

Class Charts allows us to provide you with important updates in real time. **This is a reminder that all parents and students are required to have the app downloaded**, which can be accessed from the App or Play Store across iPhone and Android. Please make sure you have done this and logged in if you have not already done so.

Home Learning

Your child's Home Learning tasks will now be recorded on Class Charts. You will receive a notification to make you aware of any Home Learning tasks set, when they are due and with resources linked.

The resources will be available in Microsoft Teams, and your child has been shown how to access these in the Academy.

If you have any issues regarding how to use Microsoft Teams, there are a series of video guides in the Home Learning tab on our website, which can be found here:

<https://www.dukeries.atrust.org.uk/page/?title=Home+Learning&pid=104>

If your child is required to self-isolate, they can access the resources for their lesson through the Class Notebook. They have been shown how to access this during Tutor Time, but if you have any questions, these are answered in Video Number 4 by following the link above.

Behaviour and Standards

Class Charts will also be used to show you any behaviour incidents that have occurred in the Academy related to your child. You will be able to see detentions set, behaviour points accumulated and these link to your Class Charts app in real time. This will be a helpful tool

designed to support you in conversations with your child that reinforce our values at home, and we appreciate your support as we work towards Disruption-Free Learning.

Rewards and Recognition

Equally, we recognise how important it is to consistently reward and recognise our students for their integrity, their ambition and excellence in what they do. These values are at the core of our work and we want to ensure your child is rewarded for displaying these. Teachers will be giving reward points on Class Charts, linked to various rewards and prizes across the year, and you will be able to see these awarded in real time to your child through the Class Charts app.

Attendance

Your child's attendance is also recorded on Class Charts. We are working in highly challenging and difficult times for both the Academy and our community. However, government guidance remains the same and all students are expected in the Academy as normal. Attendance information for your child is also recorded in Class Charts for you to see, as you support us in ensuring that all of our students continue to receive an excellent education at this time.

To support you further, two "Quick Start Guides" have been uploaded to our website. **Simply follow the Home Learning tab** to access these. One of these guides is for parents and the other for students. They answer any question you might have in relation to Class Charts.

If you have any issues with log-ins or your child has forgotten their password, please email us at:

ITSupportTDA@academytransformation.co.uk

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you wish to discuss any aspect of this letter.

Kind regards



Mr Mike Brett
Assistant Principal