



Tudor Grange Academy Kingshurst

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Dear Parents / Carers,

I write this letter in appreciation and thanks for your support, over what has been, a very long and hard term. With restrictions lifting in September, this is the first full term that students have been on-site without disruption for over two years, and we have been proud of the resilience shown over this time. We would also like to recognise and welcome the families that have joined our community in Y7 and the families that have joined us with new students in Y12 and Y13 and we look forward to meeting you all, as and when government guidelines deem this to be safe, but for now – you are most welcome.

Despite the new restrictions this week, we have had some great success stories this term and we have a wonderful set of students working on a school magazine that will celebrate these successes which will be sent to all parents in the upcoming days. We urge you to read this. We will also be sending out, twice a half-term an 'In-Touch' announcement document to all parents. This will communicate upcoming events alongside some hints and tips to support your child over challenging points across the year. We know that, as an academy, communication is key – and we are working hard this academic year to better this, to take your views into consideration and to listen more but we need your help. Over the next half-term, we will be looking to appoint two parent governors to join our fantastic governance team. Parental/family governance is vital to ensuring that we are equally supported and challenged by the community we serve and we would ask that interested family members contact Stella Smallwood, Clerk to the Governors on ssmallwood@kingshurst.tgacademy.org.uk for more information. In addition to this, we are opening the academy to a once a half-term parental forum. This is an informal gathering where senior leaders can listen to your solutions and ideas for school improvement, and we will text you in advance of the next meeting. We hope to see more and more families actively supporting our improvement journey at the academy.

Teaching and Learning at the academy continues to improve, year-on-year, and we have had visits from the executive Trust board and external professionals that have seen these improvements and have reinforced our confidence in our plans. You will start to see that homework and reading at home will be on our agenda and we ask that you continue to support us with this. In lessons, we have worked hard to ensure that we have the best teachers for our young people and can excitedly inform you that we have a new subject leads in Computer Science and IT; Chemistry; Business and Performing Arts, starting with us in the new year. We also have a new teacher of art, technology and social science joining us in January, furthering our commitment to offering a broad and balanced curriculum. We have funded a school counselling team, on-site, five days a week from January, as we know that we need to prioritise the wellbeing of our young people too.

In addition to these new appointments, I would like to inform you that from the 4th January 2022, I will have the privilege of being the new Principal of Tudor Grange Academy Kingshurst and I felt it important that I introduce myself (more formally) to the community and tell you a little about my journey from English teacher to named Principal of this academy. Having completed my teacher training at John Henry Newman, thirteen years ago, where I remained for six years, I joined Tudor Grange Academies Trust in 2015 as College Leader at Tudor Grange Academy Redditch. Since then, I have worked across multiple Tudor Grange sites in a school improvement guise. I have been working with, and at Tudor Grange Academy Kingshurst, since 2017 as part of the senior team here and have led, alongside the whole staff body the school improvement journey. My intention is to offer long-term commitment to a community that deserves the best for its young people. This school is special, and it is my intention, and the intention of the senior team and governors to hold high expectations of all learners by creating a culture of inquisitive and spirited learning coupled with high-quality, extra-curricular and in-school experiences that go beyond the classroom. We want learners at Tudor Grange Academy Kingshurst, to leave with, not only the qualifications they require to make their own choices, but also, as happy, and articulate young people with life- long memories. Young people who have developed skills and responsible attributes that will allow them to be successful happy adults. I wish you all the happiest of celebrations over the forthcoming break. Stay safe and healthy, and we look forward to the new term.

Yours faithfully

Nicola Crehan (Principal Designate)