



27 January 2025

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🌐 thegainsboroughacademy.org.uk

HEADTEACHER: Mrs R Skelton

Dear Parent/Carer

It's hard to believe but we are almost half way through the academic year so I wanted to take this opportunity to update you on developments at the academy.

We are currently consulting on creating an SEND (SEMH) mainstream hub at the academy. This is a development of our PHASE provision and will be part of a county wide strategy to improve the support available for students in the area. You can find out more about the consultation and how to submit any responses on the academy web site: <https://thegainsboroughacademy.org.uk/parents/send-hub-consultation/>

This year we have invested significantly in online learning platforms including Educake, Complete Maths and SENECA. These platforms are used to support our students with independent learning including homework. Your son/daughter has log in details for all of the platforms. You will shortly be receiving further details on each of these platforms to enable you to support your child at home

This year we have been developing alternative provision opportunities for identified students who may need additional support. This includes additional vocational provision at the schools in Rotherham and having our own allotment in Gainsborough. We are hoping to further develop these provisions throughout the remainder of the academic year. If you have any plants or seeds which we could use at the allotment, please let us know.

Additional effort data collections have been introduced this year so that we are able to identify students who are at risk of underachieving due to poor effort. You can monitor your child's effort grade on their report. If your child has a low effort score you may be invited into school for a meeting to discuss how we can support your child in improving their effort and therefore their attainment.

This year we introduced planners to support our students with managing their independent learning and their personal organisation. Students should have these with them every day, alongside their basic equipment, within a school bag. We have begun to notice that a number of students are no longer bringing their bags and equipment and are therefore not equipped to learn. This has an impact on your child's effort within lessons. Please support us by ensuring that your child has their bag and equipment.

Our personal development and careers offer continues to improve and the academy now has a full time careers advisor who can support your child in identifying and applying for their next steps as they dream big and think of their future aspirations. We have increased the number of providers who have been into school to work with the students including all local post 16 providers, the Army and the Navy. Students have been able to take part in STEM activities with visits by Engineers and the opportunity to have a go in a gliding simulator.

I would like to thank you for your support in ensuring your son/daughter is proud of their appearance and wearing the correct academy uniform. We have however noticed that there



are a small number of students who are currently not following the uniform policy. I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the following:

- Skirts should be knee length and should not be the lycra tube skirts
- Students should not wear jewellery whilst in school with the exception of one pair of stud earrings. No other piercings are allowed in school
- False nails and eyelashes should not be worn
- Students wearing jumpers in school should be wearing the school jumper not other hoodies/jumpers
- Shoes should be plain black shoes or plain black leather trainers

I would also like to remind all students and parents that mobile phones are not allowed from the time students to enter the school until they leave, we appreciate students may need their phones for travelling to and from school but these should be switched off and in their bags during the school day. If students have their phones out during the day, including before school, the phone will be confiscated. On the first occasion the student will be able to collect their phone at 3pm. If they have their phone confiscated on more than one occasion a parent will be asked to collect the phone from school.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support. If you have any comments or questions, please don't hesitate to contact the school.

Your sincerely



Rachael Skelton
Headteacher