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Principal: Richard Hart



Dear parents/carers of Year 10 boys September 2009

We are taking this first opportunity to write to you and explain some of our key messages regarding the curriculum that your son will be following during the academic year 2009/2010.

Success for children depends on a positive working relationship between school and home and as such we would ask that you continue to question and challenge your son about what they have learnt during the day and support the academy by having high expectations for them and contacting us as soon as possible regarding anything that you feel we ought to know to help support your son.

At Strood Academy we believe that every child should reach their potential and we will be reporting to you at the end of each term (every six weeks) to inform you of your son's progress towards their target grades. If your son is highlighted as a student who is not reaching their potential then we will implement a raft of strategies designed to help them make up the lost ground; this may involve working in smaller groups or being asked to stay behind after school. We would seek your continued support regarding this and may well invite you into school to discuss your son's progress and identify way in which we can work together to ensure success.

Students can find the demands of coursework high especially when deadlines are approaching. We will be working with your son to ensure that he receives the support he will need to complete his coursework on time but he will be expected to take full responsibility for his studies. If your son is finding meeting deadlines difficult then please encourage him to speak to his teacher and a variety of support strategies can be put into place.

Your son will be continuing with the options that he chose at the end of year 9 and the majority of these will culminate in final GCSE examinations in May and June 2011. Experience and research has shown us that students who continue to study and are supported at school right up to their examinations perform better and, as such, students will no longer be granted study leave and will be expected to be in lessons at the Academy until their examinations finish.

The Academy will adopt a personalised approach to the curriculum and students will continue to be pushed where necessary and, if the Academy feels that it is appropriate there may be some opportunities for students to take some examinations early where we believe that they will achieve the highest grade possible.

A wide variety of clubs and activities will be offered at Strood Academy from 3.15pm – 4.15pm and we would encourage all students to take part in as many activities as they can and discuss any ideas they have for new clubs and activities with Mr Guest (Vice Principal).

We would encourage you to contact us at Strood Academy to discuss any concerns that you have regarding your son's progress. Mrs Cooke (Vice Principal) will have overall responsibility for your son's progress whilst they are in year 10 and 11; Mrs Ahearn will remain their Head of Year. Please feel free to contact any of the staff involved in teaching your son to discuss his progress at any time.

Yours sincerely

Mrs K Gunn