



13 January 2020

Dear parents and carers,

Happy New Year to you all and one which I hope will bring you and your children at The Valley much success.

You will have received a letter at the end of last term to say that I was taking up the role as Interim Executive Principal for the next two terms from now. I look forward to getting to know you and all the pupils.

The partnership between school and home is critical if we are to be successful and so I am keen to strengthen this in the coming weeks and months, ensuring good communication and follow up with you as parents.

A new term and a new year presents an opportunity to reset and recommit to expectations. You will know that a new 'binary behaviour' approach was introduced last term and I will be ensuring the consistency of this is further strengthened this term, including ensuring pupils are recognised and rewarded for doing what is right as well as following up and resolving matters when behaviour has not met our expectations.

For Year 11 pupils we are now entering a critical stage. This is the year in which they will sit their final examinations and the weeks and months leading up to the formal examinations are crucial. I will be sending a separate letter regarding this to parents and meeting with each individual pupil to talk about their current grades and the work needed to do their best this summer.

I hope I can rely on your support regarding pupils being on time to school each day, in full and correct uniform and committing to doing their best each and every day. When this slips we will follow up directly with pupils and with you to gain your support and to get pupils back on track.

Your first point of contact for any matters is your child's form tutor.

As a school, we are focusing in the first few weeks of this new term on high expectations of pupils in lessons and excellent behaviour that supports them making strong progress in their learning.

It is just over a term since the school joined Star Academies and became The Valley Leadership Academy. I know there is still a distance to travel on our journey to excellence. We are fully committed to that journey and know that with your continued support we can achieve great things.

With all best wishes,

Kieran Larkin

Interim Executive Principal

