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CANNOCK CHASE HIGH SCHOOL

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4 September 2020

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Good Afternoon

Firstly, as always, on behalf of all the staff and Governors at Cannock Chase High School I would like to send my best wishes to each and every one of you and I hope that you are all staying safe. These remain exceptionally challenging times for all of us. We know that unfortunately COVID-19 is a virus that has, and will continue, to affect many of our lives directly over the coming days, weeks and months. However, we are really pleased that the school has fully opened to students with over 96% of students in attendance this week. Yesterday was a day that I have looked forward to for a number of months, both welcoming our new Year 7 students to Team CCHS and also our students returning to Years 8-13.

The past six months have been a steep learning curve for all of us: students, parents and staff. The extraordinary and unprecedented circumstances we all currently find ourselves in mean we are all in unchartered territory. It is, therefore, important that we remain open and transparent about our thoughts as we find our way through circumstances we have not navigated before. Now the Government has decided that it is appropriate for schools to reopen, we will continue to have the welfare of our students and staff at the heart of every decision we make.

It is important I highlight to parents my pride in our community over the last six months. Team CCHS students, parents and staff - whilst dealing with your own anxieties and families, you have all shown a determination to ensure that all our young people come through these strange times as unscathed as possible. Your combined commitment to our young people is, as always, admirable and inspiring. I have witnessed students, parents and teachers work together with integrity and a determination and dedication to navigate the difficult times we have found ourselves in. This has been a complex, fraught period but the commitment to doing the right thing for each young person is demonstrable. To all of Team CCHS I thank you for taking time to support each other, especially those who maybe are feeling anxious and frequently weary, by staying in touch with them, helping to calm nerves about what is happening in society, dishing out reassurance, showing that mental health is an issue we should openly talk about.

Cannock Chase High School is delighted with the successes of its students during the summer. We would like to congratulate all of our students in last year's Years 11 and 13. Students have worked exceptionally hard during their five or seven years at CCHS to achieve these positive outcomes. Behind the Centre Assessed Grades lie countless individual student success stories.

100% of our students in both Year 11 and 13 are leaving to move on to a positive destination. All of our Year 13 students are moving onto the University of their Choice. Noticeable achievements include Amelia Bragg – A*A*A – University of Birmingham (Psychology), Toby Squire – A*A*A – University of Manchester (Material Science and Engineering), George Hughes – A*A*A – University of Birmingham (Policy, Politics and Economics), Callum Kirby – A*AA – Apprenticeship at Deloitte LLP and Joe Loveys – A*AB – University of Birmingham (History).

We would like to congratulate all of our students. They have been a delight to teach and thoroughly deserve their success. This year's results were reached in a manner no one anticipated would happen but despite how tiring and stressful the last few months have been - the anxiety of students, parents and staff, the unnerving sense of not knowing where all this is leading us – they have all done a fantastic job in extraordinary times.

Headteacher: Mr I Turnbull, BEd(Hons), NPQH

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RESPONSIBILITY



We want all our students returning to school to know that we are immensely proud of the hard work and commitment they have shown to their studies throughout lockdown, and to becoming the best that they can be. It is always a real pleasure to watch young people grow and develop academically into responsible, caring and confident young people. I would also like to thank our staff for their hard work in supporting students during the challenging times of remote learning.

We have had an impressive return to school this week. Students are approaching the new school set up with a maturity and compassion for others that is clearly evident to all. I am immensely proud of the way they have started this academic year. We want our school to continue to develop into a place where all members of the school community, students, parents and staff, all talk of 'our' achievement and everyone is focused on improving both our collective best and individual best.

I would like to thank all parents who have supported the school by ensuring that their child has returned to school ready to work hard and be the best they can be. Can I reaffirm to you our back to basics approach to education, which is based on mutual respect, standards of uniform, attendance and the academic attainment and progress of students. We have the highest expectations of our students and want to involve all parents and stakeholders to continue to create a real team where everyone plays their part in our success. We are determined that our students will attend in the correct uniform and with the correct equipment and attitude to learning.

Advance notice that our Virtual Open Evening takes place on Tuesday 22 September. Please can we all share with our local community our pride in Cannock Chase High School in order that it remains the school of choice within Cannock.

We are in a period of considerable educational change and in order to support parents and the community in keeping you updated on both national and school changes, you have access to the school website, a twitter feed, a Facebook page and you should have already received your log in for the Sims Parent App: **www.cannockchasehigh.com | facebook.com/CCHSofficial | 0@CCHSofficial**

All of our improvements at Cannock Chase High School are so that we can achieve our vision, that our school is a vibrant and ambitious learning community with a relentless focus on the highest standards of academic achievement, personal development and equality of opportunity. We achieve this vision through the operation of routines and procedures, an unwavering focus on results, and by offering the very best teaching and support. Students learn, behave and are well mannered. Teachers teach with skill and rigour, showing courtesy. Staff and students enjoy what they do together. Underpinning everything we do at Cannock Chase High School are our values that we expect all members of our community to demonstrate in all they do:

Integrity: Doing the right thing, all the time and respecting each other.

Teamwork: Working together to improve our collective best, as well as our individual best.

Responsibility: Taking responsibility for our actions.

Excellence: Being the best we can be in all we do.

Resilience: Overcoming challenges, remaining focused and working hard.

Finally, now is the time for our young people to take control of their destiny, to believe in themselves, to be prepared and not leave their success to chance. If there is anything we can do to support them and you during this academic term, please get in touch with us.

Best wishes Mr I Turnbull Headteacher