

Exmouth Community College



Our Ref: AJD/JEP

July 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

As we approach the end of term I felt it would be useful to update you on several key areas that the College has been working to address this year.

We have been working hard this year on the development of a positive culture where student success of all types is recognised and celebrated. Part of this has been talking to students and parents/carers far more about their views and how we can continue to improve the educational experience offered by the College. This is also linked to both behaviour for learning and general behaviour where we have maintained exactly the same high standards as in previous years.

Our expectations for behaviour have been made clear on a regular basis and those students who have failed to meet these have unfortunately, in a number of cases, been permanently excluded, since I will not compromise the safety or learning of the vast majority of our students who are fantastic young people. In terms of behaviour for learning we are encouraging students to be more active in their learning which we think will lead to greater engagement in class and ultimately deeper understanding.

We have also been working very hard on our consistency of teaching and learning and feel that overall we have made good progress with staff, now clear about the key fundamentals we expect to see in a lesson and what our expectations are around marking. I very much hope that if you look through your child's books you will see evidence of PAR(Praise – Action – Response) and Think Pink which your child should be able to explain to you – if not please let me know. Intrinsically linked to this has been the redevelopment of our training programme for staff which is now more focussed on the individual needs of the staff member and this seems to have been well received by the teaching team.

This year also saw the appointment of Mr Wright from the English Faculty as our new Personal Development Co-ordinator. He has been very busy writing new materials for the course and students have already had the benefit of a new module on anti-bullying which has been delivered this term.

Finally we have been addressing the issue of developing different pathways through our curriculum in Key Stage 3, 4 and Post 16. Unlike some schools we have maintained a very broad range of subjects and are now offering differentiated

options, such as BTEC and GCSE, within subjects to tailor our provision to the needs and aspirations of your child.

At Post 16 we have introduced Criminology as a new course alongside other successful courses such as Psychology and Sociology while at GCSE we have developed three pathways through the curriculum; The English Baccalaureate, The Exmouth Baccalaureate and The Discovery Baccalaureate.

In other areas we continue to make good progress with the £10 million project to redevelop a large proportion of the Green Close site over the next two years. We are also really pleased with the way both Year 11 and Year 13 students have approached their exams and are confident that we will see some fantastic results in the summer.

Finally we have continued to offer a huge range of clubs and activities from robots to flower arranging to horse riding as well as once again celebrating a huge amount of sporting success having recently been crowned Devon U15 Cricket Champions and the Year 7 Football Team becoming Exeter and East Devon Champions. We have held various concerts during the year ranging from an amazing BTEC Music Concert through to a Summer Showtime Concert and who can forget the Blend Dance production or Drama production of 'The 39 Steps'. Details of all these events can be found on the school website at www.exmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk

Next year will also see a production of Les Miserables as well as a wide range of visits and trips including to New York, and a new school website.

So, as ever, the College is working hard to make sure your child achieves their best academically across a wide range of subjects as well as providing an extra-curricular programme which is second to none in terms of providing memorable learning experiences that last a lifetime.

Many thanks for your continued support throughout the year.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Davis', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Andrew Davis
Principal