



October 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

As we approach the end of a very busy and challenging half term I wanted to update you on our progress. This term we have welcomed our students back after a significant period of time away from school. I have been very impressed by their positive attitude and the resilience that they have shown in adapting so quickly to the new routines linked to our year group 'learning bubbles'.

It has been great to welcome our 240 new Year 7 students into the Sharples Family and to watch them settling so well into their new school. Our Sharples Tie Ceremony may have been virtual this year, but it was still a fantastic opportunity for us to welcome each individual student into our learning community. Despite the challenges posed by Covid-19, Sharples continues to live by our motto 'Learn, Dream, Achieve' which we place at the heart of everything we do. Every day, across classrooms in all curriculum areas I see highly effective learning taking place and showcasing that Sharples is a caring, inclusive learning community where pupils achieve well.

In addition to our classroom provision, we have worked hard to ensure that our students have had access to high quality enrichment activities. This half-term our Year 11 students completed their Duke of Edinburgh expedition on a gloriously sunny September weekend. We also made the most of virtual opportunities, with Sharples students 'visiting' the Liverpool Literary Festival and attending a Good to Great Lecture hosted by Manchester University. In addition, our Year 7 have now signed up to an extensive range of lunchtime clubs and are working towards the completion of their Sharples Baccalaureate.

Over the past few weeks, we have also hosted a number of open events to enable the families of Year 6 pupils to see our school in action; as usual our students did us proud and were great ambassadors for Sharples. Many families visited us for our Virtual Open Evening and their feedback has been extremely positive. I would encourage parents/carers to follow Sharples on Twitter and to read our Weekly Newsletter in order to keep up to date with the numerous opportunities which are provided to support and encourage our learners.

We have high standards in relation to appearance at Sharples and the full uniform policy can be accessed on the school website. To maintain our high standards, I would like to draw your attention to our policy on jewellery. No jewellery should be worn but, if ears are pierced, only one small, plain gold or silver-coloured stud (no jewels) may be worn in each earlobe. For further details, please refer to our website – <http://www.sharplesschool.co.uk/policies/>

As we move into winter and the inclement weather sets in, it is important to note that your child will be outside at some points during the school day. For example, when they move between lessons via their designated learning bubble routes. It is therefore recommended that your child has a warm coat and an umbrella with them every day. Please also ensure that, unless they are exempt, your child has a face covering with them at all times.

On a final note, I hope that you all enjoy a well-earned half term break and I look forward to welcoming our students back to school ready for a prompt start to registration at 8.45am on Monday, 2 November 2020.

Yours faithfully

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