



**February 2022**

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we approach the end of a very busy and productive half term, I want to share with you a few of our many achievements.

We are very pleased to announce that in January, following an external assessment, we were informed that we had met all of the requirements of the Gatsby Benchmarks. The Gatsby Benchmarks are a framework of guidance that define the very best careers provision in secondary school education. At Sharples, we are proud of our Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) which is designed to prepare all of our students for life in modern Britain by providing the knowledge, understanding, confidence and skills that they need to make informed choices and plans for their future learning and career.

In addition to our classroom provision, we have worked hard to ensure that our students have had access to high quality enrichment activities. One highlight has been our Year 9 Performing Arts students participating in the national Shakespeare in Schools Festival. Our students staged a brilliant performance of Othello at the Contact Theatre in Manchester. All of the students involved benefitted greatly from the opportunity to perform in a professional theatre and they were fantastic ambassadors for our school throughout. I would encourage you to follow Sharples on Twitter and to read our weekly newsletter in order to keep up to date with the numerous opportunities which we provide to support and encourage our learners.

As we move towards the start of the new term, I want to take this opportunity to remind you of our high standards in relation to appearance at Sharples and our full uniform policy can be accessed on the school website <http://www.sharplesschool.co.uk/policies/> In particular, 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. Please note that no other piercings are allowed.

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, 21 February 2022.

Yours faithfully

Headteacher

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