



17 November 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

You may be aware that a team of four inspectors visited the academy in September. They have now produced a report which notes the improvements that have been made since Farnborough started to work closely with Rushcliffe School. Amongst these are better teaching, improved support for vulnerable pupils, valuable links with employers and more effective leadership. They also note that pupils say the school is "much better" and that they feel safe. Parents will be reassured by their description of the school as "generally calm and well ordered" and that "the many pupils that spoke to inspectors were bright, polite and articulate". The last report for the old Farnborough School included far fewer positive comments and placed it in special measures.

However, whilst the report includes many positive comments it also expresses concerns about pupil attendance, the number of exclusions and the disappointing GCSE results. I share these concerns. Whilst attendance has improved from 2014 it is still too low. We have had to exclude too many pupils. GCSE results have not improved as quickly as we hoped they would, despite improvements in teaching.

The inspectors decided that whilst the academy has improved in many ways it still has some serious weaknesses related to attendance, the number of exclusions and GCSE results. They acknowledged that the Senior Leadership Team is already making further improvements and visits will take place to ensure Farnborough is on track to be judged "good".

We have capable and committed staff. They will be involved in more work to improve attendance, reduce exclusions and increase achievement levels. I know that you will be supportive of this work because you, like me, want the best possible education for your children. The inspection says that we aren't there yet. I agree. Things are much better but there is still work to do.

You are invited to a meeting of the Parent Forum which will be held to discuss the report and future plans on Wednesday 29 November at 7.00pm. Members of the Governing Body and the Trent Academies Group will be in attendance. I hope you will be able to join us. It will be a chance for you to ask questions and make suggestions. If you would like to read the Ofsted report it is available through the academy website www.thefarnboroughacademy.co.uk or directly from the OFSTED website from Monday 20 November 2017. If you would like a paper copy please contact the academy directly and it will be posted to your address.

Attendance Week

During the week commencing Monday 27 November, we will be launching The Farnborough Academy Attendance Week. During this week there will be a variety of

activities happening in the academy and in the local community to reinforce the importance of good and outstanding attendance.

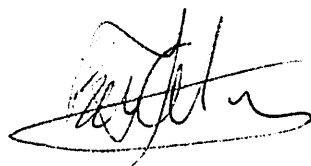
Heads of Year and the Senior Leadership Team will visit pupils and parents at home who are not attending school regularly to offer support throughout this week. Parents and carers will also be invited into the academy to discuss attendance and punctuality.

There will also be lots of rewards for pupils who attend all week and have regular good attendance and punctuality. There will be competitions, classroom activities based on good attendance and lots of prizes to be won including a training session with Nottingham Forest, £10 vouchers and more.

If you have any concerns about your child's attendance or are having issues getting them into school, please do not hesitate to contact the attendance team on 0115 9744444

I look forward to working with you to continue the Farnborough Improvement Programme.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B Chaloner', written in a cursive style with a large loop at the end.

Mr B Chaloner
Headteacher