



Head's Blog 18th January 2019

Welcome to my first blog of 2019. The term has started with assemblies reinforcing our High Expectation No Excuses mantra in everything that we do as part of our Wolstanton High School Community.

In particular, I have talked about the concept of 'everyone can learn' and part of the learning process is making mistakes. If pupils are doing something difficult, the chance of getting it wrong to begin with is inevitable but it's the getting it right in the end that's the challenge. How many times do we hear young people say 'I can't do this?' Our challenge, as teachers working with pupils, parents and carers is to not allow our young learners to give up at the first hurdle but to build up their resilience and keep going with support and encouragement when and where needed to help them overcome any barriers they have to learning.

First Attempt In Learning

It was also highlighted to our pupils the importance of making marginal gains in all aspects of school life which when added together can have a massive impact on their success on the journey through Wolstanton High School. Always a good start to a new term is to reflect on what each young learner can do to become even more successful in particular in terms of Attendance, Behaviour and their Commitment to learning. These 3 areas, the ABC of success continue to be our main areas of focus as we move into the Spring term.

The focus on High Expectations No Excuses regarding uniform continues this term, with a particular emphasis on wearing the correct jumpers and the expectations regarding jewelry. Just to remind you that jumpers are to be v neck and black and pupils can wear one set of stud/small earrings and a watch. Please note that technological phone watches or the equivalent are not allowed to be worn in school. You can access the uniform expectations by clicking on the following link [uniform expectations](#).

To further strengthen the working in partnership with our parents and carers, already this term we have welcomed Year 8 and Year 10 parents to our consultation evenings, with once more some very positive feedback regarding the learning experience we offer at our school.

Parent Questionnaire Year 10 Parents' Evening January 2019	Strongly agree Agree	Disagree Strongly disagree
My child is happy at this school	98%	2%
My child feels safe at this school	92%	8%
My child makes good progress at this school	98%	2%
My child is well looked after at this school	95%	5%
My child is taught well at this school	98%	2%
My child receives appropriate homework for their age	83%	17%
This school makes sure its pupils are well behaved	78%	12%
This school deals effectively with bullying	85%	15%
This school is well led and managed	98%	2%
This school responds well to any concerns I raise	98%	3%
I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress	98%	3%
Would you recommend this school to another parent?	98%	3%

We have a very exciting event happening ahead of us. The week beginning the 28th January under the excellent leadership of Mr Lakin we welcome to our Wolstanton Community staff and students from Italy, Romania, Slovenia and France as part of the Erasmus + 2017-2019 programme. The theme of this project is "Do you speak Culture" giving our pupils the

opportunity of appreciating their own and understanding of other peoples cultural identity promoting cultural exchange and mutual appreciation. We are looking forward to their visit and embedding an international dimension into our curriculum.

Communication links continue to improve via twitter feeds. If you haven't done so already, please access the twitter account @Wolstanton High and share and comment on the success and events in our Wolstanton High School Community.

Finally, we will be holding our third parents' forum on Thursday 7th February from 5pm to 6pm. This is an opportunity for you to positively contribute to the life of our school. The meetings are fairly informal, informative and are an opportunity for you to air your views. At this meeting there will be a presentation from our catering company Chartwells and a discussion regarding our homework policy.
Please ring main reception to confirm your attendance by Wednesday 5th February

Other forthcoming events are:

Monday 28th January: Year 11 PPE exam results day and parents' information evening 6pm to 7pm

Monday 25th February to Tuesday 5th March: Y11 PPEs (Pre Public exams)

Thursday 7th March: Year 9 options and parents' evening

Mary Hobson (Head of School)