



Lightcliffe Academy

Stoney Lane
Lightcliffe
Halifax
HX3 8TL

Tel: 01422 201 028

Fax: 01422 204 615

Website: www.lightcliffeacademy.co.uk

Email: contactus@lightcliffeacademy.co.uk

Co-CEO: Mrs Helen Pratten

Co-CEO: Ms Catherine Garrett

Executive Principal: Mr Paul Cooper

Head of School: Mrs Rosalind Wood-Ives

23rd October 2020

Dear Parents

I am writing on behalf of Lightcliffe Academy Governing Body and The Abbey MAT to thank you all for your co-operation with the school over this half-term, and also to acknowledge the hard work and commitment of the school staff in making it possible for your children to return to school safely and re-engage with learning in a 'real life' school setting.

We are aware that there have been occasions when year groups have had to be sent home following positive Covid tests and staff shortages, and acknowledge that this may have caused disruption and challenges for families. However, we are also aware that our attendance has been above national averages in secondary schools generally, and hope that we can sustain this as far as possible. In the meantime we are building up our capacity to provide online learning for students to ensure that there is as much as continuity as possible if they have to work from home. Students have adapted well to the new break and lunchtime arrangements, as well as the necessary access and circulation routes around the school. We are particularly pleased that the new Year 7 have settled in so well.

School leaders and staff continue to develop teaching and learning approaches which will enrich the curriculum and engage students. Expectations about student behaviour and attitudes to learning are being encouraged more consistently and as a result, behaviour around the school continues to improve and the number of fixed-term exclusions has fallen significantly. We do continue to ask parents to actively support the school in ensuring their children meet the school's expectations with regard to behaviour and school uniform.

Governors are also very encouraged in the steps that are being taken to strengthen all aspects of Lightcliffe Academy's performance and progress. Y11 GCSE and Y13 A-Level and BTEC outcomes this summer, based on very rigorous and moderated assessment by subject teachers, were very encouraging, showing a significant improvement on previous years' results.

Hopefully staff and students at Lightcliffe Academy, with your support, can build on the very positive start made this year, even against the backdrop of such a very challenging context.

Best wishes,

Chair of Governors

