12 January 2017

Dear Parent / Carer,

Although we are only a couple of weeks into the New Year, I have been delighted with the way that our students have returned after the Christmas break, demonstrating an excellent attitude to learning.

Year 11 students have already completed their mock exams and we will be holding a mock results day event for them later in the month. This term is particularly important for Year 8 and Year 10 students, as they make their guided pathway choices that will determine their curriculum next year and parents/carers will soon receive a lot of information about this process, including the opportunity to attend a parents' evening.

I would also like to draw your attention to a couple of pertinent issues.

Although we have had no real snowfall to speak of this winter, it seems inevitable that this will happen at some point. Please rest assured that should this happen, I will always endeavour to keep the academy open, and will only close the academy if this represents a real risk to our students. In the unlikely event that we are forced to close, parents will be sent a text message and this information will also be posted on our website, Facebook page and the Barnsley Council website. Please do not assume that we will close if it snows; it is important that your son/daughter attends as usual.

If you have recently changed your mobile phone number, it would be helpful if you could inform us of your new number, to ensure that you receive any text messages that are sent.

Secondly, you will be aware that our uniform policy states that students should wear plain black shoes and that boots are not allowed. In the past, a number of students have been allowed to wear footwear that is a cross between a boot and a shoe, such as Kickers. Please be aware that the Trust view on such footwear is that they are a boot and cannot therefore be worn to the academy; please bear this in mind when purchasing new school shoes.

Thank you once again for your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully,

Mr P Haynes
Principal

Students First