

Welcome back and a Happy New Year

As we look back on a very difficult and uncertain 2021 we also look forward to a 2022 which is full of change and improvements for us all at Evolve Academy. Here are some of the details of what is ahead of us.

Building work

There will be continued disruption to our school site as we continue to improve our site by having new ceilings, lighting, doors, heating and roof fitted. Our pupils need to be very wary of this and do their best to support us in making our site one to be proud of. This means that we expect them to behave in a safe and sensible way whilst this work is taking place.

We are currently experiencing some difficulties with the fencing, scaffolding and general noise and disruption that this work brings with it. This means that we cannot open the school to all pupils at this time. We are working tirelessly to identify alternative options so your son/daughter can return to face to face learning. In the meantime, please encourage them to complete any work we offer to them (paper based or remotely).

We will keep you regularly informed with the situation as we want all students back as quickly as possible.

Uniform

The new Evolve jumper is now ready for all pupils. We expect it to be worn for school and for the following uniform guidance to be followed:

All pupils will be provided with one Evolve Academy jumper. There will be the option to purchase more if required. Parents/carers are responsible for ensuring their child attends each day wearing the following:

- School trousers/leggings/shorts (interim period- allow black or dark blue joggers)
- Plain polo shirt or school shirt (interim period- allow t shirts under jumper)
- Evolve jumper
- Suitable shoes/trainers/boots

Pupils will be asked to **remove** coats and hoodies upon arrival at school and after break times.

NO neck chains please. Jewellery is limited to ear studs and plain rings.

NO wearing of caps, hats or hoods in school.

Support from Evolve

Every member of staff is here to support you and your son/daughter with any queries or concerns you may have. For any specific support please see the list below for the staff member who may be able to address your query:

Safeguarding- Kath Smith

SEN- Jessica Foster

Careers- Nigel Hall and Juliet Okonedo

Reintegration to mainstream school- Bernadette Lavin

Year 9 transition

We are currently working through transition plans for our Year 9 students. If your son/daughter is in this year group and making the move to Keystage 4 we will be in touch to discuss what your thoughts are around the placement you would like and the options available. We will then offer support and guidance through this process to assist in making sure the right placement is found for your son/daughter.

Behaviour and attitudes to learning

There has been a concerning increase in some behaviours around school which has led to damage to school property and disruption to students' learning. We appreciate that each of our young people have their own needs and all of our staff are here to support them with their learning and behaviour but, as a school community, we will not accept behaviours that compromise the safety of our young people and staff or disrupts the good order in classrooms.

We are currently reviewing our behaviour policy which will reflect our school expectations and will support your son/daughter to understand the importance of behaving appropriately and following instructions that will ultimately help them to make progress in all areas of their development.

Staff visits

Our staff will continue to carry out visits whilst your son/daughter is not at school to see if there is any support you need during this time.

Thank you

Thank you for your support so far this year. Attendance continues to improve but is still a huge priority for us as a school, we will continue to work with you and the students on this area as it is vital if progress is to be made. We want to continue to strengthen links with our wider school community and want to make sure we are doing all we can for the students and you, the parents/carers. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any concerns or queries you may have. We are here to help.

Kind regards,



Mr D Kiss
Headteacher