



**WEAVERS
ACADEMY**
*Creative
Education
Trust*

May 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are delighted to share updates regarding the intended changes to the school day, uniform and our very exciting co-curricular 'Elective' offer. We would like to thank parents and students for their feedback following consultation on this and the overwhelmingly positive and encouraging comments received.

A very small number of parents have raised concerns regarding break-times and the access to school lunches. As you know, following the flood to our main M block and canteen in September we had to make rapid and significant adaptations to ensure students experienced as little disruption as possible in accessing hot and cold food in school. The current situation is that all students are being served and have access to food comfortably within the time allocated. This is testament to our incredible canteen staff who have adapted brilliantly to the significant challenge of offering a varied hot and cold food option to over 1200 students whilst having to transport the food across the site to the school hall. We are also very happy to share that from September further catering facilities will be available to students and the canteen refurbishment will be complete.

Following consultation with parents and students we have made the decision to amend the uniform policy so that logoed girls' and boys' trousers are no longer a requirement and will be replaced by plain, formal black trousers. The optional grey tartan school skirt that many of our students like will remain. A reminder that the school jumper is optional but is recommended when it is colder as hoodies and other jumpers are not permitted; the school jumper can be replaced by a plain, grey V-neck jumper.

Regarding proposed changes to the school day; a small number of parents have raised students finishing 30 minutes later on Monday and Tuesday concerns about it getting darker in the winter months. We feel that the safety of young people outside of school is a community-wide concern and one that we are challenging elected representatives to address. We are happy to share that on Friday May 13th we will be visited by MP Peter Bone who will be listening to our winners of the CET Kalisher Trust Advocacy challenge Diya and Jiya in year 10 and Tiffany and Tyra in Year 7 who represent the 'Off the Streets' group, to hear their arguments for changes they want to see in the local community, particularly around safety on the journey to and from school. At the core of what they have to say is that the young people in our community need more help to feel safe outside of their homes and schools. We look forward to hear what Mr Bone has



to say but also appreciate him giving up his time to meet with our fabulous students.

We are delighted by the response from all of our staff to our 'Electives' proposal. Teaching and non-teaching staff have put forward 75 optional activities for our students, covering an incredible and diverse range including weightlifting, rugby coaching, Model United Nations, podcasting and vlogging, debating and bike maintenance - to name but a few. Students have been understandably very excited about what is on offer and we will be sharing the full programme with the once we have confirmed all changes proposed. They will then select 8 options (with up to 6 to be completed per year) so that we can then organise the groupings for the start of the year in September.

We really value your support and feedback to help us make Weavers Academy a school the whole community can be proud of. If you feel that you have had or would like to have, a significant community involvement or believe you support us more closely on our journey, we urge you to keep an eye out for the letter regarding our newly formed Academy Council.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Hunt
Vice Principal

Mr Wallace
Vice Principal

Mrs Goody
Vice Principal