

22nd September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Open Evening – Thursday 5 October 2023

I am writing to inform you that we are planning to have our Open Evening on Thursday 5th October from 4.00-7:00pm. As a result, school will close early at 1.45pm so that time is available for students and staff to arrange the activities which will be on show during the evening. Lunch arrangements will run as normal. As in previous years we will be asking for student volunteers to help on the evening and further information will follow in due course.

Should you require your child/children to be supervised until the usual finish time please email the Year Group Teams on the email address below. We have arranged for the School Transport to leave at 1.55pm.

Year 7 - Intake2023@greatsankey.org

Year 8 - Intake2022@greatsankey.org

Year 9 - Intake2021@greatsankey.org

Year 10 - Intake2020@greatsankey.org

Year 11 - Intake2019@greatsankey.org

New Bromcom Apps - It is important to outline and explain some of the challenges we have experienced with the roll-out of the new My Child at School Parents App. I fully appreciate that this has been the cause of some frustration amongst parents; we are working extremely hard to resolve these issues. Schools across the Omega Multi-Academy Trust took the collective decision to move to a system called Bromcom as our new Management Information System (MIS) from September 2023. The system provides a more intuitive interface for schools in the management of pupil information, as well as providing more comprehensive interface for parents and students. As we begin to use the full functions of the system and the linked parent/student apps, there will be more information on assessments, reports and attendance available via the App.

I appreciate that some parents have experienced some frustration with the change, and I would like to apologise for this. These difficulties are isolated to the functionality of the parents' app and we are working hard to resolve these issues, both with the support of the trust and Bromcom, and we hope these will be fully resolved in the coming days and weeks. In the meantime, you may experience some variability in accessing aspects of the App, such as your child's attendance. Going forward, we will be using the app to send you announcements, letters and other communications. Around 1700 students have already managed to log in to the student app. If they have any issues please ask them to see their year team or me.

Thanks to the 1600+ parents and carers who have already signed up and are using the app. If you have not already done so, or have found difficulties in downloading the App, we ask that you try this again. Please download the My Child at School app from wherever you usually get your apps. To log in, just click on Forgot Password. As long as you then use the email address you provided school you will be able to log in. If there is an issue, please email your child's Year Team so they can check the email address we have. They will work hard to resolve any access issues you may have.

Once again, we apologise for any frustration this may have caused.

Standards – Thanks to the overwhelming majority of parents and carers who are supporting us to uphold the high standards of uniform and behaviour that I mentioned in my last letter before the holiday. Thank you also to those who emailed me to support our stance. Please do talk to your child about the standards we have around uniform particularly on school shoes, skirt length, jewellery and not wearing hoodies in school. The term has started really well with our 379 Year 7 students settling in quickly. We ensure that there are staff around the school site every period of every day to help students to feel safe and where there are issues brought to our attention we will deal with them.

Transport to school - Last week, I attended a meeting at Whittle Hall Community Centre held by local councillors and residents. Residents from streets near to or next to school are becoming increasingly frustrated by the anti-social behaviour of some parents and carers who drive their child to and from school. There are roads, particularly on Stockdale Drive, where over a hundred cars arrive and leave twice a day, sometimes at speed, at drop off and pick up times. Drivers are often verbally abusive when they are asked to not park in front of someone's drive or in other areas where the residents are affected. There are concerns about the negative effects not just of this behaviour but also of the fumes that are coming out of the cars. If you do drive your child to school, can I please urge you all to use the drop off layby on Lingley Green Avenue or the drop off point in the Livewire car park. You enter the Livewire zone through the traffic lights and take the first right as you enter and the drop off/pick up is there. I would also urge you to encourage your child to walk to school. Students travel from Burtonwood on the bus in the main but most of our students live within a short walk from school. This would help students with their health and wellbeing and would also help local residents who are really suffering due to the large amount of traffic in their roads.

Parent's Evenings - This year we are reverting back to face-to-face Parent's Evenings. I am delighted with this as I will actually be able to meet more of you and many of you will not have had a chance to meet staff or be in school since your child started. These dates are subject to change but we will avoid that if at all possible.

Year 7 – Thursday October 19th (Meet the Form Tutor) & Thursday 9th May 2024

Year 8 – Thursday December 14th

Year 9 – Thursday February 22nd 2024

Year 10 – Thursday March 7th 2024

Year 11 – Thursday January 11th 2024

Year 12 – Thursday October 19th (Meet the Form Tutor) & Thursday April 25th 2024

Year 13 – Thursday October 19th (Meet the Form Tutor) & Thursday January 25th 2024

Thanks for your continued support as we do our best to work together to help your children achieve greatness.

Best wishes



Mr G Evans
Headteacher