



LITTLEPORT AND EAST CAMBS ACADEMY

An Active Learning Trust School

Friday 17th June 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Due to last week's communication regarding today's publication of the academy's Ofsted report, this is my first letter since the May half term. I hope you and your families enjoyed a lovely break and the Jubilee celebrations!

Since the start of term, we have welcomed parents into the building for Year 8 parents evening and it was great to hear your positive feedback about the conversations with teachers who you felt knew your children well and provided clear guidance about how they could improve further with their learning.

We have used both the recent Year 10 and 8 parents evenings to gather feedback from you about the progress we are making and I'm delighted to hear that you feel our students are better behaved, that our expectations of our children are higher and that, when you raise concerns with the school, a significantly higher proportion of them are being dealt with properly. These are all positive steps forward but we recognise there is still a great deal more to be done.

SEND updates

Following the arrival of our new SENDCo, Mrs Martin, we also welcomed current families of SEND students for year group specific coffee mornings and enjoyed hosting some early transition visits for Year 6 SEND students who showed me some stunning visual maps of the school building which would have been very useful when I first started and will hopefully help them navigate their way round!

Friday picnics

We were also delighted to host our first Friday picnic this half term (albeit in the tropical temperatures!) As senior leaders, every day we are able to enjoy speaking to our students while on duty at lunchtime but wanted to encourage all our community to join together to celebrate the week and talk in a more informal setting on a Friday lunchtime. As one Year 8 student commented, "It was great to bring together the LECA family". While the good weather remains (fingers crossed) we hope to continue this over the rest of the summer term.

Ofsted report

Thank you to those were able to join us for the Ofsted report event for parents. The event include a presentation from the Active Learning Trust Mr D'Cunha about the steps the new Trust leadership took to support the academy following their identification of serious concerns in September 2020. I shared the impact of the school improvement work undertaken last half term focusing on Behaviour & Culture and explained that today we have submitted a detailed school improvement plan to both Ofsted and the Department for Education which aims to move

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LECA to a “Good” school over the next 18 months. Once this has been checked by these organisations, we will be able to share this plan with parents. However, we did outline our aims for what the school will look like in September and how we will achieve this through the improvement work this half term. I attach a copy of this presentation for those who were unable to attend.

In order to reassure families, we are starting tours of the school so you can see the improvements in classroom culture and learning that have already been achieved since the Ofsted visit. The first of these will take place Tuesday 21st June between 9 and 10:30am. Please report to reception on the day and we will arrange some fabulous student tour guides! Members of SLT will also be on hand to answer your questions if you would like to speak to us. We have also offered families private meetings with a member of SLT. These private meetings and tours can be arranged through Jo Hedges (Jo.Hedges@Lecacademy.org). We feel extremely positive about the direction of travel and would welcome the opportunity to alleviate your concerns and re-build your Trust in the school.

We are also holding the next **parents working party** meeting **Monday 27th June at 6pm** to ensure that your ideas help to provide the solutions to the school improvement challenges we are working our way through. We are hugely grateful for both the challenge and support that this group have offered to date and look forward to continuing to work with them in the future. If you would like to share your feedback, positive and or negative in a more informal setting, we would welcome your attendance at our next **coffee morning, Tuesday 28th June, 9:30 to 10:30am**. Our sincere thanks to the catering team who have significantly upgraded the refreshments for this!

Year 11

We hope that those students who have opted for Study Leave from Monday this week have benefitted from the more flexible arrangements. We also look forward to several key events for Year 11 next week:

- An opportunity for students, staff and parents to enjoy the public exhibition of Year 11 Art & Photography work in the school hall, Thursday 23rd June, 4:30 to 6:30pm
- Year 11 Leavers Assembly at 11:10am and the Leavers lunch at 1pm which I'm delighted to say will be served by Catering students.

Students of the week

Congratulations to the Year 9 students who had their vaccinations this week – I received a lovely message from Ms Simms, Pastoral Manager, *“I just wanted to say how amazing the year 9’s have been. A few were apprehensive, however they all really kept each other strong and were really well behaved and sensible whilst waiting for the nurses and whilst I was escorting them throughout the day to the vaccines. I was very proud of them!”*. Congratulations also to Year 10 Drama students who completed their practical exam this week to a very high standard and the Year 10 Child Development students who gave impressive assessed presentations.

Hope you all enjoy the break in temperature tomorrow! Wishing you and your families a restful weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Lauren Phillips
Principal