



# UNSWORTH ACADEMY



Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023

Dear parents/carers,

First update for two weeks here following our teacher training day.

This week our principal focus has been to reset on behaviour and standards. Behaviour and standards underpin everything in a school. High quality learning, teaching and progress need this firm foundation.

As we all know, the Autumn Term is long and attritional. By Christmas, students will have worked intensely in school for 15 of the last 16 weeks. It is common for standards to slip a little as we get deeper into this long term. At the end of last week, we reflected on this at Unsworth and concluded that standards had slipped a touch. When I say this, I must stress that standards are still good. But we are aspiring to better than good. Our 3 year Good to Outstanding plan requires all aspects to be Outstanding, including standards. Therefore, on Monday of this week we launched a nine-point plan to return standards and behaviour to Outstanding. The plan has included a Senior Team On-call rota, assemblies with all year groups, re-tightening of uniform expectations, re-issuing of passes, late to lesson detentions and form time standard checks.

All of the above has been implemented with care, sensitivity and inclusion and parents have supported us fabulously over the week. As part of the training last Friday, we had an external provider start work with our staff toward Emotionally Friendly School status. A commitment to this balance of care and high standards is what I think makes us special.

We are running the nine-point plan up to Christmas before reflecting on learnings and systems for January. It will help focus and work ethic to the end of this long term and will allow a lovely culture of Christmas celebrations in the last week of term. Plans include reward assemblies, a form party on the last day, Christmas jumpers, festive offerings in the canteen and much more.

That is your Unsworth Academy update everyone. Thank you for your support with everything we are doing as always. We will communicate by video message next week.

Have a lovely weekend all,

Yours faithfully,

**Mr A Fair**  
**Academy Principal**

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