



27<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Dear Parent/ Guardian,

**Wellfield Academy**

Executive Headteacher Mrs L Gwinnett  
Head of School Mr J Lewis

### End of Half Term Reflection & Updates

So far this term, Year 11 have made a fantastic start to their GCSEs whilst the feedback from local employers was fabulous about the attitudes our Year 10 demonstrated throughout their work experience. Students across the school, particularly in Key Stage 3, are also doing a great job in preparing for the Wizard of Oz performance while there has also been sporting success with our U13 basketball team. Our students have continued to do us proud in many ways this term!

#### Year 11

Today we will be speaking to Year 11 to inform them of our expectations for them to continue attending school full time after half term to allow us to support as much as possible for all GCSEs. Students will, however, begin study leave after their English examination on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June. From this point, bespoke timetables will be shared to ensure students attend school only for their exams and lessons that they are yet to sit their exams in. More information will be shared after half term during which time we hope they find the right balance between rest and revision.

#### Arrival at school

More recently, we have found students entering the site really early and, as staff duties only begin at 8.25am, they are unsupervised around the school. A reminder that students should not be on the school site until 8.15am where they can access breakfast club or from 8.25am where they should congregate outside of Art/Ambleside building only. As you are aware, all students should arrive through the school gate by 8.40am and no later. Thanks for your support with ensuring students are punctual to school.

#### Standards Focus

After half term, we will be revisiting some of our basic standards and expectations to ensure they remain at the level we all want. Therefore, we are going to focus on a 'Tweak of the Week' which will simply be a case of revisiting one or two relatively minor things on a weekly basis. For example, the focus for the first week will be based around ensuring manners and respect, something many visitors to our school regularly say is exemplary, as well as general uniform, particularly ties. If your child does not have a tie, they must be purchased either via the school office or by logging into your Scopy Account, once purchased, can be collected from the school office.

We will tell students each Monday what the focus is, explain the rationale and ensure they are all clear on what our expectation is. Where standards are being met, students will be praised and rewarded and, in the small number of cases where they are not being met, our staff will be talking to your child and potentially parents (if appropriate) to address any issues. As always, we are sure you understand the importance in focusing on some of these basic standards and appreciate your support when addressing any concerns at all.



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### **Staffing Updates**

Mrs Manley, our Pastoral & Behaviour Team Leader, has recently secured a position as a SEN Support Officer in a school much closer to her home in Burnley and will therefore be leaving us at half term. Mrs Manley has played a significant role in the development of the PDC team since initially joining us as a PBM in 2019, before becoming the team leader earlier this year. We have moved swiftly to secure a strong replacement. Miss Hay will be joining us after half term and, as we have experience of working with her within our Trust already, we are extremely confident she will continue to drive the team forwards.

Another colleague leaving us is our receptionist, Mrs West, one of our long serving members of staff. Unfortunately, she has been unwell for an extended period of time and will now be retiring. It was fabulous to welcome Mrs West back into school today, a place she has worked since September 2002, to wish her well in her retirement. We thank both Mrs West and Mrs Manley for their hard work and dedication to Wellfield throughout their time with us and wish them all the best for the future.

### **Communication with Parents**

This term we launched our new way of communicating with parents, School Gateway to allow us to share updates via the app. If you have not already done so, please visit [www.schoolgateway.com](http://www.schoolgateway.com) to set up your user account and download the App with the email and phone number you have registered with school.

Additionally, we recently launched our ClassCharts attendance module to allow parents to report all absences via the app which has proved really successful so far. This has allowed us to track attendance and absences then intervene and support at a faster rate to previous. Thank you to parents for your support in using the app since its introduction.

### **Operation Encompass**

An additional attachment to this letter can be found which provides you with details regarding Operation Encompass. In short, this is a police and education safeguarding intervention system which ensures we are kept informed of any reported issues or concerns which have affected students. This allows us to be aware of the impact on students in school the following day and to provide support where required. Please do read through the letter and let us know if you have any questions.

### **Important Dates**

Looking ahead to the final half term of the academic year, please make a note of the following key events during our Summer 2 calendar that may be relevant to you. More details will be shared once the plans are finalised for some additional events, such as Year 10 Geography field trips, that will also go ahead during the half term.

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|--|------------------------------|
| • Week commencing 20 <sup>th</sup> June: | KS3 Exams begin              |
| • Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> June:        | Year 7 Parents' Evening      |
| • Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> July:          | PSHCE Day 5                  |
| • Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> July:         | Year 11 Prom                 |
| • Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> July:        | End of term (12.30pm finish) |

Wishing you all a safe and enjoyable half term break. We look forward to seeing all students return to school on **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at 8.40am.**

Yours sincerely,



Mr J Lewis

**Head of School**