



29<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Parents' Evening – 7<sup>th</sup> December**

Working alongside our colleagues from the Northern Education Trust, we continue to align our processes as we move towards academy status. This means there will be some changes to the way we deliver parents' evenings.

Firstly, we are returning to in-person events. These are important opportunities to build closer relationships between home and school, and I know that many of you have been keen for these to return to in-person events rather than online. I am sure this will be a welcome step.

The other change is that we are moving to the NET model of parents' evenings, which is quite different to our previous way of running them. Instead of holding 5 evenings per year, one for each year group, we will hold three evenings during the course of the year for parents of all year groups. Importantly, not all parents will be invited to attend and we will not be asking you to choose the meetings yourselves. Instead, parents will be invited by staff where they feel it is essential to have a conversation about learning for a particular child.

The students requiring the appointments will be identified through out STEP assessment cycle. Students undertake STEP assessments throughout the year and this process allows us to identify students that are not making the desired level of progress. Parents/carers of these students will then be invited to attend a face-to-face parents' evening at the college. This way of working allows us to focus our attention on improving standards and student outcomes based on data and student performance. If you are invited to attend it is essential that you attend – or get in touch to arrange an alternative time.

For some students, there might not be any teachers that have identified a need to meet on this occasion. This is because they are making positive progress and the staff have no current concerns. The students selected for the meetings will change across the year and you may be invited to one of the future parents meetings. If this is the case for your child please do not attend on the 7<sup>th</sup> as the staff will already be fully booked.

Of course, if you would still like to speak to your child's teachers please do not hesitate to contact them here in school. The email address of a member of staff is always [initial.surname@dentoncommunitycollege.org.uk](mailto:initial.surname@dentoncommunitycollege.org.uk) – their teachers are listed on their timetable and will be happy to give you an update outside of the meeting.

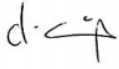
Alongside these changes, we also have begun other ways of communicating with families about students. I hope that your child is building a collection of positive postcards and SLT Star cards that recognise high standards of classwork. I also hope they have come regularly to our PROUD events and are bringing the certificates home each week. You will also see 'live marking' in pink pen in their exercise books, where teachers are giving feedback in the lessons too. Some you will also have children who have been recognised through our weekly Five for Praise posters and Headteacher's Rewards. I will be in touch shortly about further approaches to build links between school and home.

I hope you feel the changes are positive and are, rightly, focused on ensuring that outcomes improve rapidly so that the life chances of our students are enhanced.

**ACTING HEADTEACHER: Mr D Cumming**

I look forward to seeing all who are invited on 7<sup>th</sup> December.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'd. cumming'.

**Mr Donald Cumming**  
**ACTING HEADTEACHER**