

19 January 2024

Dear families

### **Passport to Prom**

Earlier this week, I held an assembly for Year 11 pupils in which I launched our 'Passport to Prom'. During this, I spoke about last year's event, which was held at Derby County's Pride Park; which I can honestly say was the best prom that I have ever had the privilege to attend and as a lifelong Nottingham Forest supporter this is very challenging for me to admit! Therefore, on Friday 28 June, this year's prom will again be held at Pride Park. I went on to explain that although it was a wonderful event, I was conscious that there were several pupils who were not there. In some cases, this was out of choice, but I also recognised that at a time when there is a cost-of-living crisis, attending a prom is a cost that some families would not be able to cover.



Therefore, this year the cost of the Year 11 Prom tickets will be covered entirely by the Academy. It will be a reward to pupils for working hard to achieve to the best of their ability, by attending regularly, behaving well and engaging with the support available to help them to succeed. Therefore, pupils know that in order to achieve their Passport to Prom, they will need to meet the following:

- **Attendance** – a minimum of 94% (between Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January and Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May),
- **Punctuality** – to school and to lessons a minimum of 94% (between Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January and Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May),
- **Behaviour** – to receive no suspensions and a maximum of 3 referrals to our inclusion unit,
- **Exam preparation** – to attend a minimum of 20 interventions either at lunch, after school or throughout the holidays,
- **Achievement** – to complete all of their courses that they are studying and sit the final exams.

This is something that all Year 11 pupils are entirely capable of doing, and I have stressed to them that I expect all of them to be able to achieve. I have also explained that all staff in the Academy are fully committed to helping them to do this, and we will be monitoring each individual pupil's progress towards this over the coming weeks. Equally though, I have asked the Year 11's to consider which of these they may struggle with (if any) and ask us to help them to achieve them.

Consequently, Passport to Prom will be a ticket that literally money cannot buy, and unlike previous Proms, it won't just be a celebration of the end of Year 11. Instead, it will be a celebration of all of their hard work, commitment and of doing the right thing. I for one will be incredibly proud to be there to celebrate this with them!

### **Parent Forum – Monday 29 January. 4.45-5.45pm**

Our next forum takes place on the evening of Monday 29 January and will focus on the important subject of **Pupil Wellbeing**. This is a crucial part of any school's work and as we continue to develop our practice in this area, we would very much like to hear your thoughts, opinions and ideas on this subject. The agenda for this meeting will be:

- The Academy's role in supporting mental health and wellbeing
  - Prevention
  - Identification
  - Early support (five ways to wellbeing / DNA way / Wellbeing Fair)
- Access to specialist support (wellbeing closely monitored and targeted support when things are more challenging)
- How can the Academy support families with this?
- What is the role of the Base in supporting pupil wellbeing?

To confirm your attendance please email [mhackett@davidnieper.academy](mailto:mhackett@davidnieper.academy) by Thursday 25 January. We hope that you can join us.

### **Careers Fair – Tuesday 30 January**

David Nieper Academy Careers Fair will take place on Tuesday 30 January. The event will begin at 2pm and will be open to students from Years 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13. We are extending the invite to **all** students and their parents/carers after school at 3.45pm until 4.30pm.

This event is a fantastic opportunity to talk to different education and training providers, from different backgrounds, about your son/daughter's future options following GCSEs and/or A-Levels. We have a wide variety of organisations joining us, including sixth form colleges, universities, employers and alumni. Please see details overleaf.

### **Early finish for staff training – Wednesday 31 January, 2pm**

Please be reminded that on Wednesday 31 January, the academy will close at **2pm to all pupils** due to staff training. Early buses, including the Wessington bus, have been arranged. If you would prefer your child to remain at the academy until the usual finish time a supervised area will be provided. Please email [info@davidnieper.academy](mailto:info@davidnieper.academy) if your child will remain in the academy.

### **Free School Meals**

Please remind all pupils who are entitled to free school meals that they must buy a meal deal either at brunch or lunchtime (main meal, drink and cake/pudding) and these items should be purchased together. If purchased separately, they will be charged for each item and won't have enough money on their free school meal allowance. Thank you.

A reminder for all pupils that 'Grab & Go' bags can be ordered before line-up each morning.

### **Dates for the diary**

Monday 29 January	Parent Forum, Pupil Wellbeing
Tuesday 30 January	Careers Fair
Wednesday 31 January	Early finish, all pupils depart at 2pm.
Monday 19 to Friday 23 February	Half-term holidays
Monday 26 February	All pupils return to a Week B timetable

If we can help or support in any way, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us. Please email [info@davidnieper.academy](mailto:info@davidnieper.academy) and a member of staff will be in touch.

Have a good weekend.

Yours faithfully



Mr R White  
Head of School

# David Nieper

## ACADEMY

### CAREERS FAIR

Tuesday 30th January 2024



**Students only**

**2.00—3.30pm**

**Students and  
parents**

**3.45—4.30pm**



ALSTOM

AND MANY MORE...