



28<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

It has been wonderful to welcome students back to the academy this week. They have returned with a clear sense of purpose and focus, reflecting their commitment to learning and the ongoing improvements we are making as a school.

This half-term began with a series of assemblies led by our Heads of Year, reinforcing our "lines in the sand"—the expectations we have for all students. It's important that students understand the reasoning behind these rules, which are designed to:






- Foster an environment where learning can happen without disruption.
- Ensure a safe and welcoming atmosphere for all students.
- Prepare students for life beyond school.

The impact of these high expectations is already evident across the academy. A key example is our focus on punctuality, which has resulted in a 60% reduction in lost learning time. This is a significant achievement, and we are committed to building on this progress.

I would also like to express my thanks to the many parents and carers who have supported our efforts in maintaining high standards of uniform. In particular, we appreciate your help in reinforcing our recent guidelines on false nails and eyelashes. Our aim is for students to feel confident in their natural appearance, free from the pressure of social media or peer influence. The school should be a safe space for students to develop this confidence. While most students have adhered to these expectations, we have had to take action with a small number (less than 1.6% of our student body) who have not met them. These students have been placed into isolation or suspended. We will continue to uphold these standards to ensure fairness for all.

On a more celebratory note, we were thrilled to host our first Iceni Way Movie Nights this week. On Thursday, students from Years 7, 8, and 9 enjoyed an evening of popcorn, sweets, drinks, and fun with friends in a positive atmosphere. Tonight, it is the turn of Years 10 and 11. These events are a token of appreciation for students who consistently demonstrate integrity by making the right choices each day—attending school regularly, working hard, aiming high, and showing kindness. Well done to all those who earned this reward!

#### Key Dates for This Half-Term:

-  **Thursday 6th March** – Year 9 Options Evening
-  **Thursday 20th March** – Year 9 Progress Evening
-  **Thursday 27th March** – Year 11 Pizza & Quiz Evening
-  **Friday 28th March** – Academy Closed to Students
-  **Friday 4th April** – Last Day of Term (Non-Uniform Day)

Thank you for your continued support. Together, we are creating a positive and ambitious learning environment for all our students.

Yours faithfully,



Mr J Morris  
Vice Principal

