



8th February 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian

I write to you to inform you of a development within the Academy in direct response to pupil feedback and requests for improved access to Health and Well-being advice and guidance for students.

There have already been a large number of significant changes and improvements made since September 2014 throughout the Academy, but during this time we have also been very careful to listen to our student voice and address their own key priorities for improvement. Our students repeatedly tell us that they are most happy with how Sandhill View promotes racial harmony, the frequency of how often their work is marked and fed back to them, how we support those students with SEN requirements, guidance relating to E-safety, prevention of bullying and how we also communicate with them in order for them to make individual progress.

However, our students have also informed us of a number of key areas to them which they would like us to address even further and widen their access to. These areas include careers guidance, developing their confidence, creating wider opportunities for them to become more involved within the local community and also the area which they have identified as being their main priority; improved access to Health and Well-being advice and guidance.

After speaking with members of the Student Council and also analysing feedback from our recent Student survey, we will soon be launching a confidential drop-in session each Friday and Monday lunch-time within the Academy for students. These sessions will be operated by a trained Youth Worker called Courtney Tuckerman whom many of our students will already be familiar with if they attend the A690 Youth provision situated on our site.

The A690 Youth Initiative provides teenagers with essential information regarding a range of issues such as personal hygiene, safe sex, sexually transmitted infections, drugs, alcohol, smoking, and body image. Sessions will provide support and guidance which considers young people's physical, emotional, mental and social well-being, giving young people a better understanding of the consequences of conduct such as risk taking behaviour, consuming drugs or alcohol or electing to have unprotected sex.

Giving young people access to opportunities to become more educated, gain the knowledge, skills and confidence in these areas and others is an investment not only in their immediate health, safety and well-being, but one which will last into adulthood and be passed on to future generations.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any further information regarding this additional supportive service for students.

Yours sincerely

Richard Carr
Head of School