

CITY OF DERBY ACADEMY

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Headteacher: Mr P Smith



Friday 16th October 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

City of Derby Academy School Updates – October 2020

I hope that you all keeping well and staying safe. I am incredibly proud of the whole school community and the learning that has been taking place since the City of Derby Academy reopened in September 2020.

As we approach half term, I would like to provide you with a few reminders and updates:

October Half Term - A reminder that school half term is Monday 26th – Friday 30th October 2020. There is also a staff INSET day on Friday 23rd October.

Covid-19 update – There have been a number of rumours in the press and on social media about a ‘circuit break’ around half term, I would like to reassure parents that I have not received any information about a circuit break and we plan to run our terms and half terms as per the school calendar. If there are any updates or changes to this I will, of course, write to you to provide details.

New School website – work has been taking place behind the scenes to revamp our school website. I am pleased to announce that we launched our new look website last week. I encourage you to visit the site as it provides useful information for parents, carers, students and the wider community -

<https://www.cityofderbyacademy.org/>

Headteacher Blog - I am still writing my fortnightly Headteacher blog. My blog celebrates and recognises the wonderful and memorable experiences that are taking place in school. The blog also recognises and rewards our students who are going above and beyond with their studies. If you would like read this, please visit our website: <https://www.cityofderbyacademy.org/information/headteachers-blog/>

Virtual Tour – This year, CoDA created a virtual open day for prospective parents and students. We were delighted with the volume of families that accessed the virtual tour and welcome videos on our website. I would recommend that all parents have a look at the virtual tour and subject videos as they give all parents a flavour of the experiences your child is receiving. You can view the details here:

<https://www.cityofderbyacademy.org/prospective-students/>

Combined Cadets Force (CCF) – I am delighted to inform the school community that CoDA has expanded its CCF this year. We already have 30 students who have signed up this and we hope these numbers grow in the upcoming years. If you would like further information please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Timmins and Mrs Wheatley.

Online Parental Controls (Netflix) – It can be a worry for some parents whether all the content is suitable for the family on video streaming services. A lot of apps bring together a range of different shows that are suitable for different ages and can be quite easily accessed if the correct measures aren’t put in place. Netflix have created

a brand new checklist that covers all the necessary points when it comes to parental controls. You can view this on our website: <https://www.cityofderbyacademy.org/parents/safeguarding/e-safety/#netflix>

Key Workers – Since we went into lockdown in March 2020, schools started to collate details of parents/carers who were key workers. If you are a key worker, please contact the school so we can update our records.

Definition and list of recognised key workers can be found on the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'P. Smith'.

Mr P Smith
Headteacher