The Calder Learning Trust

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Head of The Calder Learning Trust - Mr A Guise Head of Calder Primary School - Mrs K Lambert Head of Calder High School - Mr A Taylor





Dear all,

I would like to welcome back our existing parents and give a warm welcome to our new parents at Calder Primary and Calder High. The start of term has got off to a flying start and it has been a treat to see the next generation of our Calder Family start their journey with us.

We are very proud to announce that our pupils and students achieved another set of outstanding examination results, with 100% of our Year 1 pupils passing the phonics check and our Year 11 students achieving GCSE results far exceeding their peers locally, regionally and nationally. The Calder Learning Trust continues to go from strength to strength, this is testament to our pupils and students, the commitment of our staff and the support of you, our parents in providing a first-class education.

As we continue to grow, we have had several new staff join us this year. Two very important appointments to our pastoral team are Mr Driver, Head of Year 7 and Mr Halstead, Head of Year 10. Alongside the new appointments to the pastoral team, we are working with the Department for Education's Behaviour Hub as we continue to support our young people readjusting to a post-pandemic world.

During this academic year, we will be auditing, planning, and implementing changes to our behaviour policy. This part of the programme involves all stakeholders and I will be contacting you soon to ask for your feedback, alongside gathering the views of our pupils and students. Our main objectives are to keep your children safe and educate them to their full potential. Good standards of behaviour and attendance at school are instrumental for success at any level.

It has been reported nationally that pupil absence is at its highest and this has been proven at Calder to have a detrimental impact and children's success. Those young people whose attendance at school was 95% or higher, secured GCSE grades 1.5 times higher in every subject than those whose attendance had dropped to 90% or below. We will be sharing more details through the coming weeks of our strategy to promote and support good attendance.

Also, in the news has been the concerning stories of schools that have been found to contain Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC). I would like to reassure you that none of our buildings contain RAAC. As part of our successful application to the School Rebuilding Programme, we have had numerous surveys and structural inspections which have confirmed that we do not have RAAC in any of our buildings. Following our inclusion into the School Rebuilding Programme we have been told that we are in the second phase which will see us 'go into project' by April 2025.

With the start of a new school year there are always opportunities for parents to become involved with the school and alongside the active PTA, we now have vacancies on our governing body, with 2 specific vacancies for parent governors, a finance governor and an HR governor. If you would like further information on these vital roles, please contact our Clerk to the Governing Body at gquy@calderlearningtrust.com.

Once again, welcome back and I look forward to meeting you over the coming months.

Yours faithfully,

Q. Car.

Anthony Guise

Head of The Calder Learning Trust



