

23 September 2011

Dear Parents/Carers

The new academic year has certainly had an exciting beginning and I do hope you have seen the pictures published in our Weekly e-Bulletin of classrooms and areas in the new building that we now occupy. Students certainly seem to appreciate our amazing new facilities and the vast majority of them are treating the building with care and respect, just as they do their own home.

Phase 2 of the move will be completed during the extended October half term and when students return on 7 November we will have full occupancy of all internal areas. External landscaping works will continue through to the Spring Term. We appreciate that the building work has impacted on outdoor spaces available for student use at break and lunchtimes and will continue to do so for a few more months and we would like to thank students for the sensible way they have adapted to the restricted areas and ask for their continued support.

The Friends of Oasis Academy (FOAC) are holding their Annual General Meeting on Thursday 10th November at 7pm after which tours of the new building will be available for all Parents/Carers who wish to come along. Further details about the event will be issued in the coming weeks and we hope many of you will take the opportunity to support the Friends and have a look around at our new facilities.

GCSE Results 2011

I am sure many of you will have seen the announcements in local press about our summer GCSE results. I am delighted to report that since opening three years ago attainment levels at the Academy have risen by 42% overall!

Initial reports show that GCSE figures for 2011 are:

50% 5* A - C inc English & Maths (11% improvement at least from 2010)
93% 5 A* - C (10% improvement from 2010)
95% 5 A* - G (3% improvement from 2010)
98% 1 A* - G

These results represent a significant increase from the previous year. Students and staff are to be congratulated on their hard work. We are all determined to continue in our drive to improve attainment levels further year on year.

Student Leadership

We believe in giving as many students as possible opportunities to develop their leadership skills. Key Stage 4 student leaders were appointed in July and elections have just taken place for the Academy Head Boy, Head Girl and their Deputies from Year 12.

Congratulations to Connor Norris, Academy Head Boy and Megan Waller, Academy Head Girl together with their Deputies: James Burtenshaw, Leandro Oviedo, Jayde Yankey and Shanaz Mbabzi. A Head Boy and Head Girl of Key Stage 3 will be announced shortly. The Student Leadership Team will form an important partnership with staff in the development and success of our Academy.

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New Staff

We are delighted to welcome new members of staff to our Academy Family this year:

Teaching Staff

Mr Gooding – Music

Mr O'Donovan & Mr Smith join the English department

Mr Crivich – Maths

Mr Dixon – Science

Mr Cook – Transition/Access Teacher

Support Staff

Ms Hackett – Attendance Officer

Mr Gardiner – Youth Worker

Ms Goodman – Pastoral Manager

Mr Grover – Site Staff

Ms Holmes & Mrs Mantle – Admin support

Mr L Leatherbarrow – Voluntary Academy Youth Worker

Mr P Brierley – Oasis Academy Coulsdon Chaplin & Director of Charities Parliament

Attendance & Punctuality

Lessons begin at 08.30 and students are required to be on site by 08.20 in time for their first lesson. It is a proven fact that students whose attendance falls below 95% fail to achieve the basic standard of 5 A*-C grades at GCSE.

e-Communication

In keeping with good environmental practice our preferred method of general communication with parents is electronic. Please do logon to our website regularly www.oasisacademycoulsdon.net which contains a wealth of information: Weekly Information Bulletin, Calendar of events, news, term dates, letters home. The Academy sends text and email reminders when new information is available. Please ensure the Academy has all up to date contact details for you, including email address.

Paper copies of all communications are available from Student Reception for those without internet access.

We look forward to working with you over the coming academic year and to welcoming you at the many information evenings and events we have planned.

Yours sincerely



David Millar
Principal