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## Knowle DGE Academy

Welcome back to a new school year and an especially warm welcome to new pupils and their parents and carers. At Knowle DGE, we recognise that many families will have had a difficult time prior to starting with us and you may have endured a lot to secure an EHCP and a special school placement for your child. I sincerely hope that as we welcome you into the Knowle DGE family you will be feeling reassured that your child can be successful here.

### Celebrations

A big well done to all of the pupils who sat exams in the summer. Some have gone on to apprenticeships or college placements and many Year 11s have stayed on to join the 6th form.

### Site Changes

I wrote in Term 6 to say over the summer new gates would be being installed. As is sometimes the way, unfortunately there were some delays with the manufacturer and the work will be ongoing over the next few weeks. We made these changes due to the 6th form build and to ensure that the front of the reception is secure and pedestrianised during the school day. Pedestrian access remains from Leinster Avenue along the 6th form block and Novers Road along the Lodge. If you drive and need to use the disabled bays or have young children to drop please come through the Novers Road entrance, this will keep traffic one way at drop off and pick up times.

We have had a range of works done internally including new blinds and carpets. We have been working on developing the Lodge which now houses a Pantry Cafe and community wardrobe. We are also developing a sensory circuits space in the Lodge and a library specifically for Lower School there, due to be completed shortly.

### Communication

In Lower and Middle school, if you have not been sent them already you will shortly be receiving links for Class DoJo. This enables you to see how many points your child achieves each day, as well as get photos and updates of how they are doing. You will be shortly sent dates for coffee mornings, annual reviews, parent/carer evenings and any other big celebrations.





### Family Support

The Pantry is open on Tuesdays from 1.30-2.30. Please come along for a cup of tea and chat and you are also welcome to take a food bag which is free to Knowle DGE families. If you have relatives or friends who would also like to use this facility, they can also take a bag of items from the Pantry for a £3 donation. Opposite the pantry is a community wardrobe with a wide variety of good condition preloved items free of charge. We will be looking at some volunteers to help us run this so if you are interested please let Maxine or Kirsty know.

### Uniform

Well done to everyone looking so smart. The school uniform is a Navy Polo shirt and a navy fleece and/or jumper. You will have been provided your first one free at induction. Further ones can be purchased via parentpay or free ones are available from the community wardrobe. A range of supermarkets also sell plain navy sweatshirts and polo shirts.

Black trousers or joggers and black shoes or trainers should be worn. This uniform applies to all students except Post 16 who have a dress code.

When your child outgrows their uniform if you no longer require it please consider donating it back to the school so it can be passed on to other families and we can be as environmentally friendly as possible!

### Attendance

You will know that regular attendance at school is essential in order to ensure your child is able to settle well, establish positive routines and relationships and learn successfully. You will have received information about the changes to the statutory framework for attendance for Term 6 which impacts all schools, a leaflet is attached to this newsletter. If your child is absent from school please contact the school office to inform them.

I look forward to seeing you at upcoming events.

Warm wishes,



Kate Lee-Wells, Head Teacher



