

8th March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Firstly, I would like to thank you for your patience with the Business Studies staffing concerns. As you are aware, there is a national crisis with teacher recruitment and sadly we have experienced this in trying to recruit a Business Studies teacher to cover Mr Joynson during his illness.

I asked Miss Smalley to meet with students and parents at the Parents/Carers evening to give you an update on the situation. At this time, we had hoped that the Business Studies specialist that we had finally secured would have had all his preemployment checks completed to start with us on Monday 4th March. However, on Monday, this was not the case, and he was unable to come into school.

I am pleased to share with you today that Mr Akhtar joined us yesterday. He sat in the lesson that Mr Bullen was taking with Year 11 so he could get a feel for where the students are currently working. As a result of his observations whilst Mr Bullen went through the paper 1, Mr Akhtar has planned the lessons to deliver next week and is fully informed on how he can support the students.

Since I wrote to you earlier in the week, Miss Smalley and I have spoken to a number of students in the Business group, and they have said they found the lessons with Mr Bullen beneficial and are keen now to move forward and prepare for the exam with Mr Akhtar.

Although we have now secured Mr Akhtar, I am still working with the 6th Form colleges to hopefully organise some booster sessions and hopefully the additional resources that we have provided are supporting your child with their revision outside of the classroom. If you were unable to see Miss Smalley on Parents/Carers evening, to receive these resources, your child has been given these.

Both Miss Smalley and I will be continuing to drop into the lessons to ensure that the delivery and content is engaging and that the students are actively involving themselves in the lessons.

Thank you for your continued support. I know that this has been a difficult situation, but unfortunately the health of staff is not something we can predict and always plan for. We had managed to secure a specialist when Mr Joynson first became ill, but due to them securing a permanent position it left us in this challenging situation.

Hopefully we can move forward now and ensure that the students get all the support they need and deserve.

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind Regards

Mrs Ryles-Dean

Headteacher

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