



**Tudor Grange Academy**  
**Dingle Lane**  
**Solihull**  
**West Midlands**  
**B91 3PD**

3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021

Dear Parents / Carers

I hope that you are all well and that you are enjoying the festivities that represent the run up to our Christmas break.

In this letter, I want to share some important staffing updates with you and remind you of some key dates for the remainder of the term / start of the new term.

### **Staffing updates**

I need to inform you that I will be taking a period of maternity leave from February half term. I am looking forward to spending some time with my (growing!) family, although I will miss the wonderful daily interactions that I have with the children and staff at school. During my maternity leave, Mr Pole (currently Associate Principal) will be leading the school as Acting Principal. It is a privilege to work alongside Mr Pole and I know that his personal values and the strong relationships he has with students and their families will stand him in good stead to lead the Academy in my absence.

In order to create some further capacity on the leadership team during my maternity leave, we have appointed two Associate College Leaders, Mrs Bargh and Mr Hindley. They will be joining the leadership team from January 2022 and, although they won't be specifically assigned to a college, they will be supporting students from across all year groups.

There are some further appointments to make before the end of the year and I will write again at the end of term with another staffing update.

It is my pleasure to announce that Miss Pierce and Mrs Carter have now welcomed their babies safely and I am sure you will join me in sending our congratulations to them and their families.

### **Important dates**

As we approach the end of term, I am pleased that we are still able to plan ahead for some celebratory events. We are continuing to assess the COVID risk for each event, taking into account the measures we are able to put in place and the rates of transmission in school and the local community at the time. Prior to each event, we will send parents / carers further information about how the risk will be managed and any additional measures that we have put in place. We also need to be realistic and accept that a significant rise in cases (at school or in the local community) or changes in guidance could lead to the postponement of some events. I sincerely hope that this won't be the case and that we will be able to see many of our families at the following events:

Sixth Form Christmas Social  
Pantomime  
Prize Evening

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December  
Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December and Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December  
Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December





Caterlink, our catering partner, have planned to serve Christmas dinner to students on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December. There is no need for pre-booking, please just make sure that students have sufficient funds on their ParentPay account if they wish to enjoy Christmas dinner on these days.

We are planning to finish early for the Christmas break, at 2pm on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December. On this day, students will be permitted to wear Christmas jumpers and accessories (as additions to their uniform) and a charity collection will be made. Further details will be shared in the weekly parent and student bulletin.

Finally, we are due to return for the Spring Term on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022. You will be aware that the most recent guidance asks that schools set up a COVID testing centre to test students prior to their return. Our plans for this have not yet been finalised but we will share these with you as soon as possible, as this may require a staggered return for students. As previously, if this is necessary, we will plan to do this as quickly as possible so that students do not have disruption to their learning.

The students have, once again, shown incredible resilience during the Autumn Term and it has been a pleasure to have everyone back in school following a challenging period for everyone. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Smith  
Principal

