



# Huxlow Academy

Ambition • Respect • Pride

Our Ref: PLE/KHU

Date: 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you and your families have, despite the disappointing weather, had a restful and enjoyable Summer. I wanted to write to you with some information before we return tomorrow, and we welcome all our students back into school.

Firstly, you will have seen a lot of press coverage of the concerns raised over the RAAC concrete used in the construction of some public buildings, and the resultant impact this has had on some schools' ability to reopen after the summer. I would like to reassure you that at this point we are not aware that Huxlow has any of this material within the building, but to be sure Tove Learning Trust have arranged to have a specialist survey which is taking place on Tuesday. School will be open as normal on Tuesday. Clearly, if any of this RAAC type of concrete is found we will take immediate action as advised by the relevant experts and authorities. I will communicate the outcomes of the survey as soon as I am able.

Typically, just as we return to school the weather forecast has indicated the arrival of high temperatures for this week. To ensure that students are as comfortable as possible, **I have made the decision to allow the wearing of Huxlow Academy PE kit by any student that wishes to until the end of this week.** Only Huxlow uniform or PE kit items, as per the school policy, should be worn in school. Normal sanctions will apply for items not within the school's uniform policy. At this point, normal uniform will be expected to be worn from Monday 11th September.

I will be writing to you regularly throughout the term to update you on the many developments happening at Huxlow. However, we have been busy over the Summer making further improvements to our site. These have included extra hard surfacing for student social space, new signage to reinforce our embedding of 'The Huxlow Way' and expectations of students across the school (see below), Wi-Fi and IT server enhancements, improved LED lighting to many areas, digital signage to improve communication of information to students and the decorating of many corridors to make our school feel fresher and provide the environment that our students deserve. I would like to thank our site and IT teams who have worked so hard in the background to ensure we are ready to reopen with these improvements in place.

I will be leading House Assemblies this week and will be clearly setting out the behaviour expectations we have of our students at Huxlow. Our non-negotiable 'Huxlow Way' rules, and the character attributes we aspire for students and staff to display, both within and beyond school, are key to the students and our whole community's ultimate success. I once again ask for your support in regularly referring to, and reiterating, these attributes and expectations with your child. By working in partnership and having high expectations of your child's conduct, and their commitment to school and homework, we can ensure that they are in the best position to aim high and achieve their best. Below are The Huxlow Way rules and character attributes. These are on display within every classroom and in many corridors and social spaces across the school. Staff will be constantly referring to and framing their expectations of students using these statements. I am sure you will agree these are basic expectations that we all would wish to see our students displaying every day. If they follow these principles, they can learn effectively at school and be valued members of any

community, including Team Huxlow. Our aim is to prepare our students for life beyond Huxlow, as well as for success in the examinations they will take in Years 11 and 13. The Huxlow Way is key to achieving this aim.

I urge you to take some time to remind your child of these expectations and of your support for them.



As ever I thank you for your support and I am looking forward to an exciting and successful academic year in 2023-2024. I will write again soon with further updates and news.

Yours faithfully



Paul Letch - Headteacher