

01509 412385 office@humphreyperkins.org.uk www.humphreyperkins.org.uk

Deputy CEO Jenny Piper-Gale Associate Principal Della Bartram

3 October 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

As the new academic year is now well underway, we wanted to update you on changes to teaching staff, implementation of approaches to improve learning and a renewed focus on an aspect of our uniform policy.

- 1. We are delighted to welcome back Jenny Piper-Gale (Deputy CEO of Lionheart Trust) as our Executive Principal for the academic year. We are also thrilled with the start our new teaching staff have made, settling in quickly to the routines and high expectations of Humphrey Perkins. We have welcomed in Maths, Mrs Malley, Mr Abbott and Mr Mitchell; in Geography, Mr Patrick and in Science, Ms Meetha, Mrs Kirkham and Mrs Cazot.
- 2. Standards, Standards is our new mantra and all staff will focus on the following in lessons to maximise attainment and progress:

**Students** - **Effortful Learning**: we want our students to be working hard and challenging themselves.

As you are aware, to support our students' learning we are also being much stricter with homework, and a detention will be set if homework is not submitted without a good reason. We are pleased to report that students are engaging more positively with homework, and we have seen a real improvement in the standard of homework – thank you for your continued support.

**Staff – Responsive Teaching**: teachers will be supporting and challenging students, according to need.

After the Big Revise, Year 11 after-school Boost is now underway and is organised according to the latest research in effective practice: small groups of targeted students who will then be rotated every 6 weeks. These sessions will focus on particular gaps in knowledge that have been identified and aim to improve students' confidence and ability to answer key questions. In addition, we will also be holding an extra Year 11 Parents' Evening on the 13th February, 4–6pm, which will be by invitation only. This will afford teachers the chance to discuss with parents, key areas of focus in the lead up to the GCSE exams.

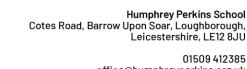














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Staff - Meaningful Feedback: teachers will be advising students about how they can improve.

3. As part of our renewed focus on standards, we have been carefully considering our uniform. To ensure that our students wear formal, dignified, business attire in readiness for the world of work, tight-fitting, 'tube skirts' will no longer be allowed in school after half-term, from Monday, 28th October onwards. We recognise that this may place additional financial pressures on families, so we are happy to exchange up to 2 "tube skirts" for 2 approved school skirts paid for by us. Please call/email the Office by Monday, 14th October if you would like to take advantage of this offer. In addition, please ensure that all skirts worn by students are at least of mid-thigh length and, if above the knee, are worn with thick black tights with no large rips.

Thank you for your support and we will be sharing additional updates with you over the remainder of the academic year.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J Piper-Gale

Deputy CEO

O. J. Bartram

Mrs D Bartram Associate Principal









