

24th June 2021

## Year 9 Personal Development Week 3

Dear Student and Parent / Guardian,

I am writing to inform you of arrangements for Personal Development Week 3, which takes place from Monday 5th - Friday 9th July. As I am sure you are aware, the continuation of COVID 19 restrictions means that we have had to alter our original plans.

At the start of each day, students should go to their tutor base for 8:40am. For days where students do not need to wear school uniform, they should make sure that they are suitably dressed for their activities throughout the week. They should also follow the usual Academy's non-uniform day guidelines which are that clothing should be an appropriate length, bellies should be covered, no unsuitable slogans should be seen and appropriate footwear is worn. On Monday, Thursday and Friday, students should ensure that they have their pencil case with them and they will be able to order lunch from the canteen via the fusion app for Monday - Wednesday and Friday. The timings of the school day will stay the same, and Tutor Time Reading will take place when students are on site.

The programme for Year 9 is as follows:

Monday	Students will be completing a carousel of PSHE topics including the importance of sleep and self-examination (focusing on breast and testicular cancer) using resources from the charities Coppafeel and Oddballs. Students will also be working towards the iDEA Digital Citizenship award. If students have their own headphones, they should bring them to use during this part of the day. Please inform Ms Byrne (Year 9 Pastoral Mentor) if you have any concerns over the sensitive nature of these topics. <b>Non-uniform can be worn and students should bring their pencil case.</b>
Tuesday	This day will be spent visiting Splashdown Quaywest and Goodrington Sands. More information about this is below. <b>Non-uniform can be worn.</b>
Wednesday	This day will be spent with the PE department participating in a variety of 'non-PE' sports including Foot Golf and Ultimate Frisbee. Students will also be choosing their Sports Days activities. <b>Academy PE kit should be worn and students will need to bring their 3G boots with them. They will also need their pencil case.</b>
Thursday	Students will spend the day with the Art and RS department taking part in the

	annual 'Spirited Arts' competition. During this day, students will produce a piece of creative work focusing on one of given topics. As part of their homework next week, students should start to think about which topic they would like to choose and can start to prepare their ideas. <b>Non-uniform can be worn and students should bring any preparation that they have completed for the task with them along with their pencil case.</b>
Friday	The final day will be spent completing a carousel of activities, including a first aid course, an army assault course time trial and Mr Yates' end of year celebration assembly. <b>Students should wear PE kit and bring their pencil case.</b>

All activities will be taking place within Covid secure guidelines.

On Tuesday, we will be taking all students to SplashDown QuayWest and Goodrington Sands for the day. This will be in school hours, with coaches departing at approximately 8:45, returning to the academy for 3:00pm. This visit will be fully funded, so no payments need to be made. However, the parental permission slip on Parent Pay will need to be completed by 3:00pm on Friday 2nd July.

Students will have the option to visit SplashDown QuayWest, or for those who are not water-confident to visit Goodrington Sands to play beach games and produce sand sculptures.

For those who wish to visit Splashdown, they should wear their swimming costumes under their clothes to ensure an easy arrival procedure. For those who would prefer, T-shirts can be worn over swimming costumes as can wetsuits. Students will need to follow the covid restrictions put in place by the park, which means that students should queue in twos for each slide and should move around the park in groups of no more than four. Students who fail to follow instructions from park staff will have to spend the rest of the time with a senior member of staff. Students should bring a packed lunch with them as there will be severely restricted opportunities to buy food whilst at the park. Students who are in receipt of free school meals will have a lunch provided for them by the Academy.

For students who are not water-confident, they will spend their time on the beach with members of staff, taking part in a variety of activities. Again, students should bring a packed lunch with them, with one being provided by the Academy if students are in receipt of free school meals. If you have any questions about this aspect of the week, please contact Mr Yates at the Academy.

We apologise that we cannot carry out the week as originally planned, but we hope that the activities we are able to carry out will excite and enthuse the students and they make the most of the opportunities given to them.

If you have any questions about the week, please contact your child's form tutor initially.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Ian Hartley  
Assistant Principal