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Date: 10 January 2024

**RE: Work with the Senior Team** 

**Dear Parents and Carers** 

Happy New Year to you and your families and I hope this letter finds you well.

As you know, I invited parents/carers into school last half term to provide an opportunity to meet me and my senior team to hear about our Academy Improvement Strategy. We would like to express our sincere gratitude for your attendance at the recent collaborative development session. Your presence and active participation made the event a great success.

During the session, we discussed various important topics related to the development of our school community. We appreciate your valuable insights, suggestions, and feedback, which will help us in making informed decisions for the betterment of our students. I hope we can grow this further for subsequent sessions this year. As I explained to those parents in attendance, collaborative school improvement, working alongside our students and their parents/carers is incredibly important to me and the staff at our Academy. We want to work with you on our journey to improving Brunts Academy for a very deserving group of young people and community.

I appreciate some parents/carers were not present at the session but I felt it important to try and keep you updated with the items we discussed and the key points/actions which have come from the discussions. The following summarises what was discussed and what we are doing as a group of staff to move things forward:

Improvement Priority	Actions
Improving but still some aspects to be developed	<ul> <li>A new website is being designed to provide better clarity of information and improved access for parents and students</li> <li>Classcharts will include teacher name to help parents/carers understand where things are going well and where improvement are needed for their child.</li> <li>Parents/carers to be consulted when class changes are happening to improve understanding.</li> </ul>





	<ul> <li>More regular opportunities for parents/carers to come into school to work on improvement priorities.</li> <li>Utilise parents/carers professional skill sets to support staff development – skills audit/survey to be distributed.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Homework</li> <li>Parents/carers/students         would like more clarity on         the Homework policy, when         it is set and due.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>We will review and re-launch the Homework policy.</li> <li>We will Investigate the use of an app which will improve certainty and communication of Homework.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Year 7 Transition</li> <li>Very positive experience for students and things seem to be going well for our new cohort of learners.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Ensure programme this year replicates this for next years new starters</li> <li>Look to plan a summer school experience for our most vulnerable students to further strengthen their transition</li> <li>SEND specific focus to meet with SENDCo as part of transition days.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Parents/carers say this is improving and students are sharing this at home.</li> <li>Rewards are being talked about more to build a positive culture and celebrate students success</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Implement and end of year awards ceremony to celebrate students success</li> <li>Hold regular student rewards assemblies throughout each term</li> <li>Introduce Passport to Prom initiative to encourage and celebrate year 11/13 intervention engagement.</li> <li>Regularly take student voice on rewards to strengthen the strategy.</li> </ul>
• Parents/carers feel communication needs to improve alongside training for staff.	<ul> <li>Academy to appoint a Director of SEND to support the SENDCo.</li> <li>Introduction of Inclusive Planning Grids to support staff understanding of students needs and to improve planning to meet these needs.</li> <li>More regular training for staff to support students with SEND</li> <li>Regular meetings/phone calls with inclusion staff to discuss child's progress</li> </ul>

Based on the positive outcomes of the first collaborative development session, we are delighted to invite you to a second session. This session will provide an opportunity to further delve into the identified areas and work together towards implementing the discussed actions.

The details of the second collaborative development session are as follows:

Date: Monday 5th February

Time: 5:00 -6: 00pm

We highly encourage your participation in this session as your input and involvement are crucial in shaping the future of our school community. Your presence will contribute to the collective effort of creating an environment where every student can thrive.

Please confirm your attendance by **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January** by completing the Microsoft form. If you have any specific topics or questions you would like to discuss please feel free to let us know in advance by completing the form. <a href="https://forms.office.com/e/ZfLnBuOpRx">https://forms.office.com/e/ZfLnBuOpRx</a>

Once again, we extend our heartfelt appreciation for your support and active participation. We look forward to seeing you at the second collaborative development session.

Warm regards

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R Sutcliffe

Principal