



# Lincoln Castle Academy

Riseholme Road, Lincoln LN1 3SP

Tel: 01522 529203 ~ Fax: 01522 504007 ~ @LincolnCastleAc



10<sup>th</sup> July 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian,

**Diversity @ LCA:** From Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July until the end of term we will be celebrating diversity and promoting equality through a range of academy events. We have an inclusive culture at LCA but we recognise that now more than ever, there are some unacceptably intolerant messages being shared in society. We want all students and staff to be certain that they are valued.

Growing up LGBT+ is still one of the most challenging experiences young people can face. Discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity are facts of life for the 150,000 (or more) lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT+) pupils in UK secondary schools: across the country 96% still report hearing homophobic remarks. These negative experiences undermine aspiration, reduce performance and limit the potential of LGBT+ pupils.

The raising of our flag coincides with School Diversity Week 2019, the national celebration of LGBT+ equality in education, supported by the 'Just Like Us' network and the Department for Education. Students and teachers from all over the country totaling over 1.2 million voices are taking part in events. At Lincoln Castle Academy we are sending a powerful and positive message about our academy and our values. We want all our students to grow up happy in themselves, free to be who they want to be, valued for their individuality. Emblazoned on the wall of our school is the line: 'Be your best self'. The words 'your' and 'self' deliberately place repeated emphasis on the individual.

During tutor time students have been writing their own 'Diversity Pledges'. We also plan to end the school year with our annual 'Great Get Together' picnic. We do this in memory of Jo Cox, MP and all that she stood for: "We are far more united and have far more in common than that which divides us." This is about rejecting division and judgement in favour of celebrating community, diversity and the power of communication & kindness.

**Final Day of term:** As you know Friday July 19<sup>th</sup> is the last day of the summer term this year. It is also the day that we are choosing to celebrate the 'Great Get Together'. The idea is to bring our community together and celebrate all that unites us. In order to do this our last day of term arrangements will be slightly different to normal. Firstly, we are inviting students to come in non- school uniform and to wear multi coloured clothing.

The theme of Diversity will be intrinsic to our whole school assembly that will take place from 10am. From 11am until 12.20pm, the students and staff will celebrate the Great Get Together with a picnic. Students are invited to bring a contribution to the picnic to add to the food we will provide. At 12.20pm students will be dismissed for the summer holidays. The bus companies have been notified and early arrangements have been made.



A few reminders:

- Term begins for new Year 7 and Year 12 on 29<sup>th</sup> August
- Term begins for all other students 30<sup>th</sup> August
- Grey skirts will not be permitted from August – academy checked skirt only/trousers
- Open Evening will be on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September from 6.30pm – 8.30pm
- Study File for all – please make payments of £10 via ParentPay or school Reception by 30<sup>th</sup> August 2019

Thank you for your support with all of our activities this year,

Have a lovely summer.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Laming  
Headteacher



Lincoln Castle Academy  
would like to invite you to our



# OPEN EVENING



Thursday  
12th September  
2019  
6.30pm - 8.30pm



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