

October 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Year 12 and Year 13 on a great start to the autumn term.

Year 12 and 13 students are at the stage of either planning or thinking about their next step after their journey with us at Giles has concluded. On Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2018 we invited The University of Northumbria in to deliver an assembly on student finance. This was aimed to give those students that are planning on going onto higher education an idea of what is involved when applying and what people do with their money whilst at university. At the end of the session there was an opportunity for students to ask questions relating to student finance. The feedback given by students on the session was overwhelmingly positive.

As part of the Year 12 personalised learning curriculum students have been working through Barclay's Life Skills programme. The three main topics that the students will be covering throughout the year are finance, confidence and careers. As well as this, students will have the opportunity to meet with our Head of Giles Futures to discuss their potential next steps. Currently Year 13 students are coming to the end of the UCAS application process. They have been working on personal statements throughout this term and are close to sending their applications off.

We would like to take this opportunity to say congratulations and thank you to the Senior Student Leadership Team for helping the smooth running of the Sixth Form Open Evening. Feedback from the parents was positive commenting on the mature manner in which our students responded to questions and how smart they looked in their uniforms.

Both year 12 and 13 have adapted well to the new four day week, and in most instances are coming into school to work on their associated projects when asked. Can we please remind you that when students are required in school, they must attend, as this is still part of their curriculum and studies at Giles Academy and will count towards their attendance figure.

Government guidelines state that students should aim for a **minimum of 95% attendance**. This remains as our first requirement as there is a direct correlation between good school attendance and long-term success; our students are all full-time students. We are pleased with the attendance of most Sixth Form students this term and I hope that this is maintained for the remainder of the academic year. For those students that have fallen below our minimum attendance, we have sent letters to inform parents/guardians of our concerns. We would be grateful of some correspondence so we can work together to alleviate our concerns.

Students who are leaving the school site **must have a specific reason and must let either of us know** so that our registers can be amended. This is to ensure that our fire registers are always accurate. All we ask is that students let us know that they are leaving the site and why. Students are not permitted to leave the school site when they have study periods, unless it has been authorised by a member of the Sixth Form team.

Should you wish to discuss any aspect of your child's studies, please do not hesitate to contact us at school.

Kind regards



Mrs S Garrard  
Head of Sixth Form



Mr Reed  
Head of Sixth Form