



Pensby High School

Irby Road, Heswall, Wirral.
CH61 6XN

T 0151 342 0570

F 0151 342 0571

E schooloffice@psf.wirral.sch.uk

www.pensbyhighschool.org

Headteacher: Mr K Flanagan

23 September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

I want to take a brief moment of your time to reinforce our view as a school and my view as a Headteacher with regard to ensuring that every child in our care receives their full educational entitlement. This is regardless of an identified special educational need, placement on a pathway to a potential diagnosis or parental preference.

All of the children in our care will receive the same ambitious curriculum, it is their right and whilst we respect the opinion of a parent who wishes their child to have a reduced curriculum, unless there is a specific and short-term need, all students are entitled to the full curriculum. Equally, our SEND provision is not there to simply recognise need, the provision is in place to ensure that every child has the same educational opportunities as their peers, for example homework a full range of KS4 subjects and 25 lessons a week.

Many students would rather not do homework. As a parent I recognise that sometimes it is a battle to get students to complete homework, but say to any group of students that they do not have to do homework is to remove part of their curriculum and reduces their opportunities. We will not disadvantage children in this way and to support this we run an after-school homework club 3 days a week and the Student Support Centre has staff available at every break and lunch to help. Equally, we have the same expectations around behaviour and relationships. Education is about empowering our students to move forward and take the next steps in their lives. We might use adjustments, such as a time out card, a report, positive tracker, small group work and on and on, but we will not say that a diagnosis or perceived need by home means that a child will not develop the skills to positively interact with others; if we do, we are giving up on a child and perpetrating difference will disempower a child with regard their ability to grow and develop.

Our SEND and vulnerable children achieve in line and better than their peers, partly because we believe they can be as successful as their peers in every way. Disadvantage whether as a result of income, special need, behavioural difficulties or any other reason, is not a condition that leads to some form of pre-determined failure.

Every child can be successful and we see this best when school and home are unified in telling young people that they can and will succeed. Thankfully the vast majority of parents truly believe this, thank you to all of you but to be absolutely clear, we will not reduce our expectations around any child. This is non-negotiable; treating others as you wish to be treated is non-negotiable and we want every child placed into our care to believe that they can and will achieve and they are as successful, valuable, meaningful and as important as everyone else. I absolutely believe in your child and I will strive to guarantee their educational entitlement.

Thank you for your support and belief.

Yours sincerely

Mr K Flanagan
Headteacher