

Dear parents and carers,

I am writing to update you on the brilliant work of our Academy Student Voice group and to let you know about some exciting developments taking place in the next term. As senior leaders, we value feedback from students as it helps us to understand best how to support them and respond to any local or national issues. Over the next week, I am delivering assemblies with all year groups about how the academy is responding to the key findings in our recent Ofsted report, as well as inviting students to get involved in contributing to the wider life of the academy. Please see below just two examples of how Student Voice is helping to shape life in the academy, as well as how you can support us as parents/carers on some key issues.

#### Student Voice Conference

On Tuesday 13 December, five members from our Student Voice group represented the academy at the 'OGAT Student Voice Conference', which focussed on Sustainability and Climate Change hosted by Leeds United Foundation. Outwood Academy Hemsworth students took a leading role in the day, including our Student Prime Minister, Bobby Cook, presenting to over 100 students from across the Trust. Students are now developing proposals for improving aspects such as litter, plastic usage and promoting sustainable practices in school.

#### Anti-Bullying Alliance Award

The academy is now a registered participant in the Anti-Bullying Alliance Award programme which aims to help students, staff, parents and carers better understand what bullying is and encourage individuals to work collectively to make the world a better place. The Alliance is a national organisation that has over 20-years of experience based on research across the world. Our students will take part in an online questionnaire, which has already been completed by over 30,000 young people nationwide. The education sector recognises this is a national problem, with approximately 40% of students reporting that they have been bullied and over half of students nationally reporting they are bullied online. The questionnaire covers topics such as: life in school, friendships and wellbeing. Please follow the link [here](#) to provide consent for your child to complete this questionnaire. The questionnaire takes approximately 15 minutes to complete and all student responses will be anonymised. To read the Data Protection Notice and further information about the questionnaire please follow this [link](#).

#### Parents' Evening - Online

Finally, can I take this opportunity to remind parents/carers of students in Years 10, 11, 12 and 13 that Tuesday 10 January is parents' evening, held via our online platform 'SchoolCloud'. If you have not yet made an appointment please follow this [link](#).

Yours faithfully,



Mrs Day

Acting Head of School