



ROCKWOOD
ACADEMY

Naseby Road, Alum Rock, Birmingham B8 3HG

t: 0121 566 6500 e: enquiry@rockwood-academy.co.uk www.rockwood-academy.co.uk

Headteacher: Ms Sofia Darr NPQH MEd Bed

18th July 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

As my first year as Headteacher at Rockwood draws to a close, I am delighted to share some of our achievements this term which include Rockwood achieving the UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools Bronze Award and becoming a UCL Beacon School for Holocaust Education. You can read more about the events which have taken place in the summer edition of our newsletter which you will receive at the end of term; this can also be viewed in detail on the Academy website.

It's been an eventful summer term at Rockwood, with our Year 11 students completing their examinations and we welcomed our new year 7 students to the Academy. We have celebrated high achievement, a superb sports day, our Cadets Central Camp and lots of other amazing events. I was proud to see how our students were true ambassadors and played a key role in Year 7 induction events, ensuring our new students felt at ease in a new setting. I would like to wish all our Year 11 students every success in their journey ahead. I firmly believe they will go on to achieve great things in the future.

I can truly say we are a place where students come first. I commend our students for the hard work and resilience they have demonstrated with every challenge that they have faced, including curriculum changes; new grading and challenging GCSE specifications. Thank you to our dedicated staff who go over and beyond on a daily basis to provide the best education for our students. A great deal of what we do at Rockwood cannot be achieved without the support and co-operation of parents, who have shown immense dedication to the Academy. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you.

Visitors to the Academy continuously complement our students on the high standards they exhibit at all times. Our CORE values truly permeate throughout everything that we do; this dedication only strengthens their character and ability to make the most of every opportunity they have at the Academy.

I have high expectations of attendance, uniform, behaviour and attitude to learning, which form the foundations for success. Students are recognised as individuals; yet we act together as a strong family, proud of the Rockwood values and ethos. Please refer to the website for details on the Academy uniform before you go uniform shopping over the summer break.

Important dates

- We close for the summer holiday on **Friday 20th July 2018**. **All students will finish at 1.15pm.**
- GCSE Results Day – **Thursday 23rd August 2018**. Please refer to the Academy website for the opening times.
- Students will return to Rockwood on **Tuesday 4th September 2018**. Years 7 will start at **8.40am** and Years 8, 9, 10 and 11 will start school at **11.25am**.

Have a wonderful summer holiday and I look forward to welcoming you back at the start of our new academic year on **Tuesday 4th September 2018**.

Yours sincerely

Ms Sofia Darr
Headteacher

STRANGER DANGER PREVENTION ADVICE

Here are some simple steps you can take to make sure you stay safe on the street.

- *Never go off on your own with a stranger, take things from them or get in a car with them*
- *Make sure you tell your parents where you are*
- *If someone scares you, or makes you feel uncomfortable go somewhere safe, which could be your home, your school or a police station*
- *Remember to tell someone what has happened straight away*
- *If you have Snapchat check the settings on the new location sharing feature, [Snap Maps](#), including details about how to change your settings and tips for staying safe.*

USEFUL LINKS FOR PARENTS

- *The National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) is the only children's charity which can safeguard children. Visit their website for more information - <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/staying-safe-away-from-home/>*