

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of this half term, please note that the academy is closed on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026 for a staff training day. The academy will reopen to all students on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2026. I hope all families enjoy a safe and well-deserved break and we look forward to welcoming students back refreshed and ready for the next half term. Thank you for your continued support this half term, whether that is ensuring exceptional attendance, supporting learning at home, attending Parents' Evenings, encouraging participation in enrichment activities or working in partnership with us day to day. Your commitment makes a real difference to our students and to the strength of our academy community.

### **Attendance – Changing Lives**

I am delighted to share that our academy's attendance is at its highest in recent history. This reflects the strength of our shared commitment to our young people. There are 24 hours in a day, and students spend approximately 6 of those hours with us in the academy. Your influence and support at home remain critical. When attendance is exceptional, we are able to change lives together.

Exceptional attendance enables students to achieve, belong and thrive. Every lesson matters and small gaps in attendance quickly become gaps in knowledge. By ensuring your child attends every day, on time and ready to learn, you are directly supporting their success. Attendance is also directly linked to opportunity within the academy. Many of our rewards, celebration events, enrichment experiences, trips and visits are based on positive attendance and conduct.

### **Weekly Curriculum Updates – Supporting Learning at Home**

We will be starting to share weekly curriculum updates on our website and Instagram account (@serlbyparkacademy) for parents to see. These updates set out precisely what is being taught each week at Key Stage 3. This level of curriculum transparency is not common practice and provides families with clear insight into what their child is learning and how best to support them at home. With only 6 hours in school each day, the partnership between academy and home is vital. We strongly encourage all parents and carers to access these updates.

## **Reducing Barriers to Learning**

At Serlby Park Academy, we are fully committed to reducing barriers to learning. We support families by providing:

- Free uniform to all Year 7 students, with further support available where needed
- Free equipment in lessons to ensure no student is disadvantaged
- Free enrichment opportunities across the academic year
- Free memorable visits as part of our personal development programme
- Tablet devices available before school, at break, lunchtime and after school
- An academy library open daily from 8.00am for reading and study

## **Personal development experiences**

At Serlby Park Academy, we do not only focus on the academic but want to provide as many experiences as possible for our students. Since Christmas our students have been exposed to the following:

- Opportunities in all year groups to compete in a variety of sports against other schools
- All year groups had access to our careers fair
- Y7 Zoolab animal experience – linked to the geography curriculum
- Y7 Valentines disco
- Y8/9 Holocaust survivor presentation – linked to the History curriculum
- Y9 Ambition trips
- Y9 Science mavericks competition
- Reading routes launch for Y7/8/9
- Y10 Brilliant club launch and workshops – in conjunction with The University of Sheffield
- Y11 Xscape rewards trip – linked to attendance at interventions
- Y11 How to revise evening
- Y11 7+ English and Maths days
- Y11 revision weekend at Dallowgill education centre
- Y11 Mock interview day
- Y11 Driving lessons

This half term has been filled with hard work, progress and success and I am incredibly proud of what our students have accomplished. Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



**Miss K Smith**  
**Associate Principal**