

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2021,

Dear Parent,

We are reaching the end of what has been an incredibly busy and challenging year. I have been so proud of our school community and the way it has pulled together to find ways to get the best possible solutions to new challenges. With news looking positive regarding the relaxation of rules and protocols, I am so optimistic for what can be achieved next year.

Our Year 13 and 11 students are awaiting their examination results, which this year will be available in early August. The Year 13 day being Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> August and Year 11 being Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> August. I am looking forward to seeing the students reap the rewards of their hard work and to see them make their next steps positively. We will be hosting enrolment days for the new Year 12 on both Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> and Friday 13<sup>th</sup> August.

Students in Year 10 and 12 will see normal lessons end on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July and will then have a 2-week careers programme starting from Monday 12<sup>th</sup> July that will incorporate different experiences for the different pathways of students. These sessions are compulsory and do count towards overall attendance, even where session is delivered remotely. We know that these experiences are what help our students to stand out when it comes to apprenticeships and work place applications and are therefore vital.

Following the careers programme, we have arranged a 2-week catch-up programme (summer school) starting from Monday 26<sup>th</sup> July for current Year 10 and 12 students. Students and parents have received full details of these sessions and students should take full advantage of what is on offer. The sessions will be aimed at ensuring that students have no gaps in their knowledge, created by Covid disruptions, and are able to move into Year 11 and 13 with confidence. I know parents and students will be keen to make the most of this great opportunity and we look forward to welcoming the students.

We are saying our goodbyes to some cherished staff members at the end of term and would like to wish them well. Pritam Gungah leaves us to pursue new opportunities. Neemat Aladejana has worked tirelessly in Chemistry this year and we wish her all the best in her studies. Laura Parsons is relocating to be closer to her family; we wish her all the best as head of art in her new school. Samihah Uddin leaves us to take up a PGCE (Teacher Training), she is already well on her way to being an incredible teacher of English, she will be sorely missed.

I am thrilled to be welcoming new members of the team in September who will add to the incredible work that takes place here. Anne-Marie Tracey joins us as teacher of Health and Head of Key stage 4, as Lazarus Fibresima takes on Head of Key Stage 5. Kozan Suleyman has now joined full time as teacher of Health to expand this fast-growing specialism area. Andrew Clunie joins the engineering department from Portsmouth UTC and brings a huge amount of engineering experience. Our science team will be boosted by the arrival of Samah Addan, as teacher of Chemistry.

We also have made a number of internal appointments and promotions of colleagues. Alicia Davis, our front desk officer, is moving into a new role as our SEND administration officer. Derwyn Kennedy has been successful in securing the role of Faculty Director, of the newly formed, Engineering, Maths and Computer Science Faculty. Jenna Wilkinson, the new Assistant Faculty director, will ably assist him. Dr Eleanor Massie has been successfully appointed as Lead teacher of English and Ingrid Miller has been appointed Lead Teacher of Health. Harvey Neizer-Arku will be full time in the role of behaviour lead for the UTC.

You will have noted that our school branding has had an over haul to bring the style in line with our trust; South Bank Academies and our sister school South Bank University Academy (Formerly UAE). Our new logo highlights our unique specialisms in both health and engineering. I hope you agree with me that this provides a clear and fresh identity for the school.

The staff at the UTC will be completing 4 training days at the end of August, in order to be prepared for the forthcoming academic year. Term will start in earnest on September 1<sup>st</sup> for our new Year 10 and 12 students or September 2<sup>nd</sup> for students returning in Year 11 or 13. Next academic year is sure to be a busy one, as we anticipate a visit from OFSTED and have an opportunity to show case everything that is great about the UTC and what our students are achieving.

I hope you all have a wonderful and restful summer break.

Kindest Regards,



Austin Sheppard

Principal