

Franklin News – September/October 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

It's been a very busy start to the academic year, and I've been truly bowled over by how quickly our new and returning students have settled in to the term. There are a number of key items I want to share with you about the College going forward and I plan to send regular news items and updates to you that I hope you will find interesting and useful.

This letter gives some further detail on the following:

1. The Welcome Evening event for parents/carers who are new to Franklin; **Thursday 6th October**
2. Our introduction of 'Digital Days' for all students to the College Calendar, the first ones being **Thursday 29th and Friday 30th September**
3. The Student 'Careers and Progression' Newsletter
4. Investments of over £2 million in the College campus in response to our increasing popularity and growth
5. A reminder about available financial support
6. A reminder about signing the consent letter for trips and visits
7. Our ABC Expectations of students

1. The College's Welcome Event – Thursday 6th October, 6pm

The event, lasting an hour or so, is for parents and carers who are unfamiliar with the College. It includes a presentation about how the College supports students through their education journey, along with our expectations, values and wider aspects of College life, and the valuable role our parents and carers play in supporting students.

We expect this will be a busy event, so please let us know if you are coming along by registering you and any family members attending for one of our 2 time slots:

- 6.00pm <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/franklin-sixth-form-college-welcome-event-tickets-425100365637>
- 6.45pm <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/franklin-sixth-form-college-welcome-event-tickets-425189642667>

2. 'Digital Days' for All Students – Thursday 29th and Friday 30th September

The demands of Higher Education and work are changing rapidly, and our students need more than ever to develop their digital and independent learning skills. As a national leader in Sixth Form education, Franklin produced digital learning plans and resources for the Department for Education, and developed remote learning skills through the covid lock-down period and beyond.

Our digital days will ensure students are able to improve their digital skills base, and their approach to independent learning. Learning activities will be set across all curriculum areas and the ASPIRE programme. On the 29th, our college buses will be running so that students who need help/access to specific resources can do this onsite. On the 30th, all students will work remotely unless otherwise agreed; College buses will not be running.

3. Careers and Progression Newsletter

Students are sent a weekly newsletter by email covering all sorts of opportunities available to them in planning and working towards their future goals, including work placement and paid employment opportunities, university open days and apprenticeship information and offers. You can see the newsletter here:

[Download Our Careers Newsletter | North East Lincolnshire's Top Performing College \(franklin.ac.uk\)](#)

4. Investments in the Campus

We are committed to developing Franklin as a modern and world-class Sixth Form College. In 2022-23, we are investing over £2 million in developments including: extending to the Learning Centre to increase access to more modern digital and social learning; refitting the college wifi so that student access is more consistent and higher speed; significant investment in technology improvements more generally and improving our heating, lighting and roof spaces.

In commissioning Jembuild as our local contractor, we are working hard to minimise any noise and disruption whilst these vital works take place. I'll send progress updates throughout the next term.

5. Student Financial Support

We do not want finances to get in the way of the best possible education, and we know that circumstances can change. If you need information about what is available please get in touch.

6. Consent letter for Trips and Visits

If you have not already done so, please sign the consent letter for all trips that was sent out last week. Completed forms go back to the Centre for Professional Development office in the Learning Centre.

7. Our 'ABC' of Expectations

All students have signed up to our ABC (Attend, Behave, Commit) expectations. We treat this as our 'contract of employment' to enable students to understand their responsibilities going into adult life.

We have learned, even more clearly through covid that the impact of poor attendance can be catastrophic for students' grades and harmful to their progress through and beyond College. This is why we expect full attendance from students and **do not authorise any holiday absences**.

All absences must be reported by 8.30am.

8. Parent Governor

Franklin College currently has a vacancy for a parent (the term "parent" includes natural parent, adoptive parent, legal guardian and step-parent) interested in joining our Governing Body and helping to transform lives through learning. This voluntary role brings many rewards. If you are interested in becoming a parent governor and would like some further information, please email Sharon Stenton sharon.stenton@franklin.ac.uk. The closing date for expressions of interest will be 5th October, 2022.

Regards

Peter Kennedy
Principal & CEO