



**Friday 12 January 2024**

**Headteacher's weekly update for parents**

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable break. We have some changes to staffing for the new term. Ms Stewart-Parker, Associate Deputy Headteacher, will be on sabbatical in Japan for the next two terms and will return to CGA in September. Ms White (Drama teacher) and Ms Knott (Humanities teacher) have been appointed as our new PSHCE leads and will be leading on our PSHCE curriculum, Focus Days and assemblies.

**Important dates for your diary**

Monday 15 January	Year 12 Health & Social Care Work Experience begins
Wednesday 17 January	Global Majority Parent Group Meeting (5.30-6.30pm) in the LRC For more information, email <a href="mailto:globalmajoritycga@gmail.com">globalmajoritycga@gmail.com</a>
Thursday 18 January	Year 13 Parents Evening (4-7pm) and Flu Immunisation catch-up day
Monday 22 January	Non-Violent Resistance Course for parents begins
Friday 26 January	Deadline for Year 11 students to submit applications for CGA Sixth Form
Thursday 1 February	Year 9 Parents Evening & Guided Preference Information (4-7pm)

**Professional Learning Day - Friday 5 January**

On 5 January, staff received training on restorative conversations and teaching staff worked on curriculum development in faculties. A key training session focused on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion. If you would like to find out more about this training, please come to the Global Majority Parent Group meeting on Wednesday 17 January.

**Year 13 Parents' Evening – Thursday 18 January – 4-6.30pm**

Please ensure you confirm your attendance via Evolve and that your child has made appointments with their teachers.

**Flu immunisations – Year 7 to 11 students only – Thursday 18 January at 9am**

The academy hosted the Vaccinations UK nursing team for two flu immunisation sessions during the autumn term. Public Health England (PHE) has asked the nursing team to contact parents again and get responses from those who did not previously respond. If you have not yet responded, [please complete and submit this form as soon as possible](#). Nurses will again be offering two types of flu vaccination: a nasal spray and an injection (gelatine free and Halal). Even if you do not want your child to have the immunisation, please complete and submit the refusal section of the form.

**Deadline for internal applications for Sixth Form – Friday 26 January**

We have already received over 200 applications and spaces are limited. We would like to prioritise our year 11 students; in order to do so, all year 11 students must complete an application to secure their place. The application form can be found [here](#). More information can be found [here](#).



### UCAS update

Huge congratulations to our six Year 13 students who received offers from Oxford University this week, a record number, with courses ranging from the sciences to humanities subjects. This achievement is a real testament to their brilliant applications, references and interview skills. We are very proud of the offers that have been received for universities all over the UK. This half term, we are working with students on applying to degree apprenticeships.

### Behaviour - detentions

While we understand that detentions are not an enjoyable aspect of education, they play a crucial role in fostering accountability among students, contributing to their overall development and in turn maintaining a positive learning environment. We believe in fair and transparent procedures, and we want to inform you of a recent change in our detention system. The updated procedures were sent to you via MyEd earlier this week and can be found [here](#).

### Examinations update for GCSE students

We have been informed by the exam boards that students sitting GCSE exams in the summer of 2024 will be provided with formulae and revised equations for Maths, Physics and Combined Science. We will allow students to use these in their Pre-Public-Exams. If you want to read more about this, please click [here](#)

### Draft Department for Education (DfE) guidance on Gender questioning children

On 19 December the [draft DfE guidance on gender questioning children](#) was published. This is a consultation exercise and has not yet been agreed for use in schools and colleges. It takes a 'parent first' approach on how schools and colleges can best support pupils questioning their gender, including requests for children and pupils to socially transition. The draft guidance covers a range of issues such as changing pronouns, single sex spaces, suitable changing accommodation, school uniform and clothing, and physical education and sport.

The Department for Education are encouraging students, parents, teachers, school leaders and governors/trustees to respond to the consultation which closes on 12 March.

The links below are to the proposal and the survey which will allow you, as a parent, to respond with your own views. The DfE also welcome students' views so you may wish to involve your child when completing the survey. Please note that you or your child should respond as an 'individual' or 'student' and not on behalf of the school 'organisation'. We understand that there are many different views on this topic within our community. This is an opportunity to share your own thoughts via this consultation. We are also sharing the consultation information with staff and trustees.

[Gender Questioning Children - non-statutory guidance \(education.gov.uk\)](#) Full paper- 20 pages

[Parent first approach at the core of new guidance on gender questioning children - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)- summary

[Guidance for Schools and Colleges: Gender Questioning Children - Department for Education - Citizen Space-](#) survey



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Ms Anna Feltham: Headteacher

## **REMINDER: Non-Violent Resistance (NVR) course for parents**

CGA will be hosting a Mental Health Support Team (MHST) 6-week NVR parent group to address destructive behaviours in young people, which aims to restore individual strength and self-respect in parents. It also supports caring and respectful relationships in the family. All meetings are 4.30-6pm. Dates are: 22 & 29 January; 5, 19 & 26 February; Monday 4 March. [Please see flyer for more details and how to join.](#)

## **IMPORTANT REMINDER: School Street at Clapton Girls' Academy (SS50)**

From Monday 22 January, Hackney Council are introducing a School Street zone at Clapton Girls' Academy which will include: Laura Place, Mayola Road (from junction with Rushmore Rd to junction with Almack Rd) and Almack Road. More information, including a letter from Hackney council can be found here. [More information, including a letter from Hackney council can be found here.](#)

Kind regards,

**Anna Feltham**  
**Headteacher**