

THE DIAMOND LEARNING PARTNERSHIP TRUST



Established in the Queen's Jubilee Year 2012

Andrew Road, Eynesbury, St. Neots, Cambridgeshire PE19 2QE
Tel: 01480 375270 Fax: 01480 375274 Executive Headteacher: S Connell

9th February 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

You may be aware that the St Neots Learning Partnership (SNLP) has been issued with a pre-warning notice from the Regional School Commissioner, Sue Baldwin. This will, I am sure, worry you if your child is moving to Ernulf Academy in September. I felt it important to write to you to explain that the school will not be closing. This notice tells the Trust (SNLP) that if it cannot prove that it is able to improve the school, it's funding agreement will be removed. This will then mean that another Trust will take over the school.

I have attached Mrs. Brogan's letter to the parents of Ernulf Academy for your information.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Susannah Connell
Lead Executive Headteacher/CEO
On behalf of The Diamond Learning Partnership Trust



Ref: TAB/CLO

08 February 2018

Dear Parents / Carers,

I thought it important to write to you in the interest of balance to re-state where Ernulf is in its improving journey. I have been very open with all parents, carers and visitors to the Academy that we are on an improving journey and that there continues to be work to do. In a recent Local Authority review the Local Authority representative commented that on his many visits to different schools he had rarely encountered such passion and commitment amongst all of the staff and that the clear drive for improvement was evident both from staff and from his conversations with students.

Our driving vision is to ensure that we continue to improve and although the outcomes this summer were not where we would want them to be, there were clear indications of significant improvement. Our Progress 8 figure the priority performance indicator improved significantly (from -0.6 to -0.3). We are working extremely hard to reduce it by that extent again this year in order to achieve the government expectation of at least 0.

In the Ofsted Report, outcomes for students who are disadvantaged or with SEND were identified as needing to improve. In terms of Progress 8, with disadvantaged students we again improved by 0.3 points. Students with SEND did achieve a Progress 8 measure of 0 (the government expectation)

Government recommendations to all schools have made it clear that it is very difficult to compare 2016 and 2017 results due to the new GCSEs in maths and English. However, if we do compare them as the DfE have chosen to, our maths results showed a slight increase in 2017 with 52% (9-4) and English a slight drop to 53% (9-4). We also had a number of students achieving the new top grades of 8 and 9 both in English and maths.

Over 50% of our students achieved a top grade (A* or 9) with 13 of our students achieving three or more top grades across their subjects and two students achieving top grades in all of their subjects.

Our results in Chemistry and Biology were in line with the national results and in several of our subjects we showed higher than national results in terms of attainment. Sport, Engineering, Business Studies, Dance and Religious Studies all achieved outcomes higher than national averages.

The current Year 11 are working extremely hard with the support of parents and staff and we are forecasting significant improvements, based on their mocks and assessments, on all performance measures for summer 2018.

There are many other areas where the school has made considerable progress and this has been highlighted and clearly documented in the many monitoring visits to Ernulf as well as our Ofsted inspection in 2016. One of these has been with attendance. We have moved from overall attendance in 2011/2012 of 92% to almost 95% in 2016/2017 (the national average was 95.6%). We are continuing to strive hard, working with parents and students, to reach the target of at least 96% or above attendance.



**Ernulf
Academy**

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Headteacher: Ms Tracy Brogan

We have also significantly reduced our persistent absence figure down to just over 12% which is lower than the national average.

I consider it a privilege to be Headteacher at Ernulf and am immensely proud of the students and the staff and am very appreciative of the support from parents and carers. It is always a delight to see the high number of parents attending all of our key events and I would like to personally thank all of the parents and carers who have contacted the Academy to voice their support and their continued commitment to Ernulf. We continue to move forward in order to ensure that all of our students achieve the very best outcomes.

As always, we are very happy to arrange a tour of the school for any parents who wish to visit Ernulf and see for themselves the excellent work going on from our dedicated staff and our positive students who are working hard and are proud of their school.

Thank you again for your continued support.

Yours Sincerely

Ms Tracy Brogan
Headteacher