

2nd December 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

RE: The Confident Individual programme

I am delighted to share with you an update on The Confident Individual programme, a new initiative we are embedding across Fairfield High School for Girls this year. This initiative is central to our vision of ensuring that all our pupils develop: independence, resilience, confidence and a feel a sense of empowerment.

Our focus on promoting pupil leadership and developing community engagement has seen the launch of several pupil-led committees so far this year, including:

- A pupil newsletter
- The Eco Committee
- The EAL Ambassador Committee
- The Year 11 Yearbook Committee
- The Fairfest Committee (a summer festival we are excited to bring to life)
- Year 7 Enterprise Challenge (a fundraising challenge working with Willow Wood Hospice)

Additionally, the entire Year 9 cohort has participated in The **Young Green Briton Challenge**, with around 10 teams advancing to our Fairfield Dragons' Den panel to present their innovative ideas in February.

Last week also saw us celebrate UK Parliament Week, 40 pupils engaged in a debate at lunchtime to raise awareness of British values, offering a platform for them to voice their opinions on important issues.

We have also introduced our **Star Spotlight**, a fortnightly event which encourages pupils to bring something they are proud of to a Senior Leadership Team panel. This has ranged from incredible assessment results and beautiful art work to swimming achievements and martial arts medals. It is an opportunity for pupils to showcase their skills and to also increase a sense of pride across school.

To further foster a sense of team spirit and community at Fairfield this year, we have introduced half termly interform challenges. Last half-term, pupils competed in pumpkin carving, a dance challenge set to Michael Jackson's Thriller and a Halloween trivia quiz. These activities have been instrumental in strengthening a culture of positivity at Fairfield and encouraging collaboration across year groups.

Looking ahead, we are excited about the challenges planned for this half-term, which include:

- **Community Challenges:** We will be collecting donations for local food banks (final collection 11th December) and are also running a campaign to collect warm, (second hand), clothing for some of our local community whom are homeless (2nd-6th December). Please do encourage your child to make donations, where possible. (More information has been shared on your child's year group Team.)

- **Charity Festive Jumper Day:** On Thursday, 19th December, we will raise money for Save the Children by encouraging everyone to wear festive or brightly coloured jumpers. This event will be a non-uniform day, *subject to a £1 donation via School Gateway*. Pupils can swap their school jumper or cardigan for a festive jumper of their choice. The brighter the better! Jeans or leggings and trainers **can** also be worn. We expect our high standards of appearance to remain. Pupils must not wear inappropriate clothing, make-up, jewellery or change their hair colour. Should a pupil wear inappropriate clothing that is disrespectful in the context of a school day (no crop tops etc.) this may result in them being placed in isolation until a parent/carer can be contacted. There is no need to buy a new jumper. You could upcycle an old jumper, get crafty or head to your local charity shop to buy a pre-loved festive knit. If you want to get creative and decorate a jumper, the Festive Jumper Day website contains lots of fun craft ideas.

- **Interform Challenges:** This half term we have launched our Winterform. Team events will include: interform dodgeball, gingerbread house creating and some surprise teamwork challenges during praise assemblies. All challenges are set to inspire camaraderie and provide some healthy competition amongst forms!

I am incredibly proud of our pupils' enthusiasm and commitment to The Confident Individual programme so far this year. It is wonderful to see pupils embracing opportunities to lead, collaborate, and give back to our Fairfield community.

Thank you for your continued support as we work together to create a positive, empowering environment for all our pupils.

Yours sincerely



Miss C Derrett

Assistant Headteacher and Head of Modern Languages