

Dear Parent/Carer,

10th June 2022

I hope and pray you and your families are well and had a restful half term.

As you know, the Academy has an ambitious curriculum intent which can be found on our website: <https://www.stmarksacademy.com/quality-of-education/curriculum>. To ensure we realise this vision for the Quality of Education, the Local Governing Board has approved an additional inset day on Friday 24 June. All students should remain at home on this day, unless they have an exam.

Staff, Senior Leaders and Governors will be working strategically to plan and embed our curriculum vision in line with Ofsted's new Inspection Framework. There will be a particular focus on improving students' levels of literacy and reading across the curriculum.

As a school, we are committed to ensuring that every student we serve receives a broad and balanced curriculum, high quality teaching, access to texts that will increase their reading age and effective assessments to prepare them for examinations and the world beyond St Mark's when they leave us in Year 13.

As parents you can support your child's literacy development by:

- asking them about what they are currently reading and what their reading age is
- asking them about Accelerated Reader
- reading with them during the evening
- asking them for a list of key terms within each of their subjects and quizzing them on their meaning
- actively reading yourselves so this encourages your child to read.

Staff will also receive training in how to sequence knowledge and skills over 5- and 7-year curriculum plans to support your child's ability to commit learning to long-term memory.

Many thanks for your continued support and understanding. If you have any questions about this, please contact the Academy.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hannah Fahey".

Hannah Fahey
Principal

Principal Hannah Fahey