

DTU/GBL

22 November 2017

Dear Parent / Carer

Year 7 Pledges

As you will already know, we provide all our students with the opportunity to maximise their full potential in preparation for all aspects of school life.

So that your child is fully ready to progress through the academy and be successful, we are introducing a graduation from **Year 8**. I appreciate that this may seem a long time away however this is an opportunity for your child to prove that they have the motivation and effort required to start their GCSEs in Year 9.

You will find that in your child's planner there is a page that identifies '**My 10 Pledges**'. We expect that all students in Year 7 achieve 3 Pledges before the end of Year 8. Alongside these Pledges we do require that your child's attendance remains above 95% and that you support the academy with interventions for your child should they receive an E4 in any of their STEPs reports

At the end of Year 8 there will be a celebration of graduation will be taking place at Thorp Academy for all Year 8 students who have proved themselves to be hardworking and committed learners who are ready to graduate. This commitment shows that they have the determination for them to succeed at Key Stage 4.

We base our decisions regarding graduation on each students STEPs report by looking carefully at effort grades, attendances and completing 3 Pledges (found in your child's planner).

Successful graduates will have a formal presentation to which you and their primary school teachers will be invited. Students will dress in caps and gowns to be awarded their scroll, and it is a great time to celebrate achievements so far. Alongside this, graduates will reserve their places on the graduation residential weekend taking place early in year 9.

We believe all students who prove that they are hard-working and committed deserve to be celebrated. As part of this celebration we would like to invite you to join in these celebrations but understand that, as this will take part in the school day, it may be necessary for you to book time off from work.

You will receive a letter when your child is in Year 8 detailing the date and times for the graduation.

There will be a **Parents Information Evening** on **Tuesday 20 February 2018** should you have any questions about this process.

Yours faithfully



Mr Tucker
Vice Principal