

2nd October 2014

Dear Parent/Carer,

Settling In Meetings

I hope you find the Personal Coach meetings useful today. I am thrilled at how well our new Year 10s and 12s have settled in and are adjusting to Studio Learning. They are keen and focused and already are forming teams to learn how to develop industry focused projects. Many of them went to the Games Expo last week where 70 of them went. Thank you for getting up so early and collecting them so late. They were excellent and it was great to see them interact with professionals in the field.

Staff Meetings and Development Days

Thank you for your cooperation with our Staff Meeting on Thursday 18th September 2014. Most students left as planned at 3.15. Our next one is on **Thursday 6th November 2014**, at the same time. Students will leave at 3.15pm unless they return on the school bus in which case they will be supervised until 5pm. If your son or daughter usually catches the school bus but you would like them to leave at 3.15 can you please give a note to their Personal Coach.

Our next whole school staff development day is on 22nd October so students will not be in school on that day.

Studio Parents Group

We are still young and shaping the future of The Studio. The Studio Parents Group helps us do that by discussing aspects of Studio policy and practice. You need to be available for 3 days during the year – once a term. The next meeting on Thursday 6th November 5.30 – 6.30. Please let Sian Turner know if you would like to attend:

s.turner@thestudio-liverpool.co.uk

Attendance and Commitment

Attendance is improving considerably on last year. Please make sure you keep this up as dark winter mornings approach. This is a crucial year for all our students but especially for Year 11 and Year 13. I would urge you to ensure they are completing all their work and able to do their very best in the work they do. We are having a particular push on punctuality this term so please ensure your son/daughter leaves home to arrive in class before 9am.

School Pick Up Times

Please be aware that when students are leaving at the end of the day we need to ensure they are safe. If you are collecting your son/daughter by car can I ask that you do so safely? There is very limited parking on Greenland Street so it may be best to arrange an alternative pick up location close by. Please do not double park in the road as it is causing unnecessarily congestion and is a danger to students.

Communication

Our parents group have encouraged us to do more digital communication so we will be putting all parent communication on our website. You can check there if you suspect you have missed anything. Please also follow me on Twitter for the latest updates: @LPSPincipal

There are several important notices in this pack and I hope these help to keep you informed.

Yours

Shaun McInerney

October 2014

Support your child as they explore their future!

U-Explore is the independent and impartial careers platform that inspires young people about their futures and places them in control of their own learning and progression. Not only does your child now have access to U-Explore at school, they can also log on 24/7, wherever they have an internet connection, to access a wealth of exciting careers features, including over 2,000 written and video job profiles across 14 industry sectors, 360-degree Virtual Tours of real work environments and advice on how to apply for a college or university course, work experience placement or even a job.

How should my child use it?

There is no structured route through U-Explore. Your child can log on at any time for instant access to completely impartial information, advice and guidance that will help them to make informed choices about their future options. If your child has no idea where to start, they can begin their journey by searching by their favourite subjects, interests, their best skills and qualities or even the qualifications they are studying for.

You could sit with your child and discuss any thoughts they already have surrounding their future, encouraging them to make notes in the Notepad (found in the toolbar to the left of the page) or 'like' any jobs, qualifications, workplaces or learning environments that they are interested in. These preferences will be saved in your child's individual Profile, which can also be accessed from the toolbar to the left of the page.

What if I want to use U-Explore myself?

That's fine - many adults have used U-Explore to find out more about opportunities for themselves. We would, however, ask you not to log in using your child's user details as this affects the tracking data the school uses. Instead, please register yourself using the information below:

Go to www.u-explore.com and click the 'User Login' tab at the top of the page.

Click the 'Register' button.

1. Enter your personal details in the About You section
2. In the About Your Establishment section, select your child's school from the drop down list
3. Enter your child's school year and tick the 'Parent' box
4. In the registration code, enter: **STUDIO**
5. Create a memorable username and password for yourself
6. Click 'Register' then log in using your new username and password and begin exploring!

What do I need to access U-Explore?

If you have access to a PC with broadband connection and Flash Player installed, U-Explore should operate with no issues.

The latest Flash player can be obtained from <http://www.adobe.com/uk> and click on the Downloads.

We hope that you and your son / daughter will enjoy using U-Explore to start thinking about and planning for the future.

Yours sincerely

Mr S McInerney
Principal