



# Ullswater Community College

*Headteacher: Mr N Ellery, BEd, PGCE*

Dear Parent/Carer

6 February 2018

## **Safeguarding and Site Security**

As you may be aware, we have been reviewing the safety and security of the school, as have many schools across the country in recent years.

We have to acknowledge the fact that times have changed, and that what was once acceptable for school security is no longer the case. For our extensive and open site this has provided many challenges but we do need to provide a secure and safe environment, as well as an attractive environment for our students.

I appreciate that this is a cultural shift for many of us but we really do need to consider the safety of the students and the wider school community. Having discussed this with governors, we have sought advice from safeguarding and health and safety consultants, along with recommendations from the previous Ofsted inspection in September 2016, and they have independently suggested various ways to improve the safety and security of UCC.

The first phase of this development saw the site become completely pedestrianized by removing vehicle movement on the Westmorland Drive between 8.30 a.m. and 4 p.m. – a considerable undertaking when you consider the number of staff who drive to work and require parking. Secondly, we have secured the external entrances to our buildings and classrooms whilst ensuring that this does not affect access for our students. Finally, and most recently, we have ensured that fencing and gates have been extended to provide a safe environment throughout the school day.

You will be aware, if you have visited the school during the working day, that we have relocated the visitors' car park outside the school perimeter (outside the maths block), with the exception of Blue-Badge holders. Our new visitors' information sheet explaining the parking and visiting arrangements is copied overleaf and is also available on the school website and from the main reception. The information sheet explains the need for all visitors to sign in and out of the school electronically, to wear an ID badge and visitor lanyard and to be accompanied at all times. This is a very important step in ensuring that there are no unauthorised persons on the school site.

All of this development goes hand in hand with developing our provision of quality outdoor space in school and our recently formed College Councils will be working with school staff to enhance the quality of our environment.

I hope you have an enjoyable half-term holiday and I look forward to seeing everyone again on Monday 19 February.

Yours faithfully

Mr N. Ellery  
Headteacher

Wetheriggs Lane, Penrith, Cumbria CA11 8NG  
Telephone: (01768) 210206  
e-mail: [admin@ullswatercc.co.uk](mailto:admin@ullswatercc.co.uk)

[www.ullswatercc.co.uk](http://www.ullswatercc.co.uk)

Registered Charity Number: 1069696