



## MANOR COMMUNITY COLLEGE

*a DCSF designated Specialist Performing Arts College*

Principal Mr B Slade BA (Hons) Ed, NPQH

[www.manorcc.org.uk](http://www.manorcc.org.uk)

Dear Parent/Carer,

### **RE: OUR FUTURE AND UPCOMING EVENTS**

Having spoken to a range of people, I am writing to all parents/carers regarding a number of unfounded rumours about the future of Manor Community College. We believe these rumours relate to:

a recent story about four schools published in the Cambridge Evening News and national press coverage about the latest government targets for schools and colleges in challenging circumstances.

**Rest assured, it is “business as usual”. We are a good college and we are here to stay!**

The government have simply requested 638 schools and colleges in England to put a plan together with the Local Authority for how we are going to further raise standards across the college. We are happy to do this because we have already planned for the future. There are lots of exciting possibilities ahead!

### **OFSTED Inspection, Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June. Letter from OFSTED (enclosed)**

**The college has an OFSTED/HMI Inspection next week.** Your support in filling out the attached form from them would be much appreciated. A stamped, addressed envelope has been enclosed for your convenience. Please use this opportunity to express your views.

I can't influence what you say about the work we do at Manor but I can take this opportunity to remind you of the following things we have done to try to improve standards of attainment and progress, behaviour, attendance and the reputation of the college this year. We have:

- ...dramatically enhanced discipline and inclusion procedures. A new Learning to Learn Centre will open in September 2008.
- ...demonstrated - through our positive CVA results – that students make outstanding progress at KS 3
- ...shown we have improved year on year since 2004.
- ...reviewed standards across the college and begun to take action where there are issues e.g. attendance. We have taken radical steps to move attendance from 86% to 91% in less than a year.
- ...written detailed improvement plans which we are acting on
- ...listened more to students and parents/carers
- ...kept governors fully informed about what is going on
- ...developed our relationship with students, parents/carers, governors and community groups
- ...improved the college buildings and committed further funds to further improvements over the summer
- ...committed money to new resources such as computers and lighting/sound equipment
- ...successfully started life as a specialist college for the performing arts
- ...rebranded and re-launched the college
- ...devised and hosted a range of performances, events etc, most notably at the Mumford Theatre!



Specialist Schools  
and Academies Trust  
EXCELLENCE AND DIVERSITY





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### **Recent and upcoming events**

We are fast approaching the "Trashion Show" which will be held at the college on **July 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:30pm**. This is a fantastic showcase for the many talented students who attend this college. We will also be able to show off lots of our new lighting and sound equipment in the JD Hall! Please come along and support this fantastic event.

Many of you were at the recent Arbury Carnival. Again, our students were superb ambassadors for the college and, in particular, for Arts at the college. Thanks to all students, staff and parents for supporting this vitally important community event. Let's hope our involvement in this will continue to grow.

This term also sees a number of trips venturing out, not least the Battlefields expedition led by Mr. Bedford and the Alton Towers Trip with Mr. McCann. I am sure students will enjoy this.

Our Awards Evening to celebrate success and achievement in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 will take place on 21<sup>st</sup> July at 7:30pm. There will be a guest speaker, presentation of awards and some refreshments, again in the JD Hall. We will also be having an end of term awards assembly with more and more students receiving certificates for almost 100% attendance, punctuality and zero trackings! My congratulations go to all students in this category.

Finally, on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June, the much anticipated Year 11 Prom will be held at the college. Mr Edwards established this 'tradition' a number of years ago and it has gone from strength to strength. I have invested some additional monies in what I feel is an important celebratory event this year, therefore I really need it to be a success! On a serious note, the students deserve this following a very successful five years at the college. They have been a credit to you and to us.

A final reminder to all parents/carers, if you wish to get more involved in the running of the college and the key decision making, please contact Lucy Crebo, my PA, about joining the new Parent/Carer Voice Forum. Her email address is [lcrebo@manorcc.org.uk](mailto:lcrebo@manorcc.org.uk)

Many thanks for your continued support and enthusiasm.

Best wishes,

**Ben Slade**  
**Principal**