

October 2008

Dear Parent / Carer

At Darwen Aldridge Community Academy, we believe that all our students deserve the very best. We have worked hard to design our curriculum and learning sessions to meet students' needs, and have embraced Personalised Learning, including work based courses and accelerated programmes, to enable students to succeed.

We see the curriculum as the building blocks on which good teaching and learning can take place, and we are now introducing to that integrated assessment and reporting opportunities across all year groups. Students improve when they understand how their work is assessed and how they can improve, and parents and carers can support this learning when they are informed about students' work, attitude, ability, skills and knowledge.

We firmly believe that 'parents matter', and in the importance of parents and teachers working together to support and improve students' learning. Where this partnership is successful, the gains in students' achievement are significant. Consequently we will now be reporting six times per year on all students' progress. Our reporting process, to be known as the Praising Entrepreneurs Programme or PEP, will also become linked to our approach to Student Rewards and Consequences. We will use the PEP to track individual progress, to praise and reward those students working hard, and to support and monitor those students requiring intervention.

During each term, students will be continually assessed, and at least once each term will be formally assessed. Parents and carers will receive a report for each student, based on that term's work. Included will be their effort grade in each subject for that term, and an attainment grade or level, depending upon which Key Stage they are in, which is a **true reflection of what their teacher thinks they will achieve at the end of the course, based on their current performance.**

The dates for each PEP are as follows:

TERM	PRAISING ENTREPRENEURS PROGRAMME CYCLE	REPORTS TO PARENTS
Term 1	PEP 1	Week beginning 3 <sup>rd</sup> November
Term 2	PEP 2	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December
Term 3	PEP 3	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2009
Term 4	PEP 4	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April
Term 5	PEP 5	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May
Term 6	PEP 6	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July

Yours sincerely

**FIONA BEAUMONT**

Vice Principal – Curriculum, Innovation and Standards