

Contact: Mr Rodger/Miss Hibbins

Ref: SST/MRR

19<sup>th</sup> February 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians

### **Research Study – Flash Marking in English**

We are pleased to let you know that Brooke Weston has signed up to take part in a national research and development project called FLASH marking which will be delivered to all students starting Year 10 in September 2018. The project will run until these students complete their GCSE study in June 2020.

FLASH marking is a programme designed to provide simple and helpful written feedback to students in their English lessons; it provides a series of codes to explain where students have done something well and to show them areas where they can develop their learning and make further progress. The coding system allows teachers to provide individualised feedback which students can then act on in order to improve and develop in English.

A team from Durham University are working with Meols Cop High School to study the impact of FLASH marking on students' English attainment and their final GCSE English grades. To help us with this research the evaluators will access the National Student Database (NPD) to obtain Key Stage 2 data and GCSE results in English. The information will also include details such as gender and free school meal status to allow further evaluation. All student and assessment data will be treated in the strictest confidence and never be made public. No individuals will be identified or identifiable. The data will then be analysed anonymously, together with data from other schools, and no individual students or schools will be named in any report. This will then be shared by Durham University with the Education Endowment Foundation data archive.

We hope you are happy to support this important study however if you do not wish for us to use your child's data, you can opt out by signing the attached reply slip and returning the form to **Mr Rodger** or **Miss Hibbins** by **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2018**. Your child will not be disadvantaged in any way by opting out and will still receive all the same benefits as their peers. If you have any further questions about the project or the evaluation please contact us directly.

Yours sincerely

S Strydom  
Senior Vice-Principal

**Brooke Weston Reply Slip**  
**Research Study – Flash Marking in English**

NB: You **do not** need to return this reply slip if you are happy for your child's data to be used in the way described above.

**Student's Name** ..... **Tutor Group** .....

**I do not want my child's anonymised data to be used within the FLASH marking project evaluation.**

(Please tick).

**Name of Parent/Carer:** .....

**Relationship to Child:** .....

**Signature (Parent/Carer** ..... **Date:** .....

**Printed Name (Parent/Carer)** .....

**Return to Mr Rodger or Miss Hibbins in the English Department by Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2018.**