



2 September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you had a lovely summer break.

As I mentioned in our Summer Newsletter, to support the Transition process, term begins for Year 7 students on Wednesday 4 September. Years 7 and Year 12 will be required in on Thursday 5 September and ALL YEAR groups (Years 7 to Years 13) will be expected to start back together on Friday 6 September. They will enter via the following gates:

Main Entrance - Year 7 & Year 11
Vehicle Entrance - Year 10 & Sixth Form
Learning Lane Entrance - Year 8 & Year 9

A reminder that Years 7 & 8 will finish at 3.30pm on Thursdays and Years 9-11 (KS4) will finish at 4.00pm on Thursdays, as per normal.

This communication is specifically related to uniform and equipment expectations. There are still at least two days before your son/daughter starts school, therefore, I am not expecting any issues around uniform or equipment. However, if you do send your child into school in the incorrect school uniform, **they will be sent home to change immediately**. If you are in ANY doubt as to what is acceptable then please contact your child's Head of Year before the start of term.

Heads of Year are as below:

- Head of Year 7 – Mr Edwards
- Head of Year 8 – Mrs White
- Head of Year 9 – Mrs Hitchins
- Head of Year 10 – Miss Tavinor
- Head of Year 11 – Mr Peacock

For clarification, our Uniform Policy (website) and Student Planner sets out clearly that only 'natural' make up, with only one pair of stud earrings and a watch is permitted. Visible facial piercings and stretcher earrings are not allowed, and students will be asked to remove them, **this includes clear retainers**.

Please note that students should not be wearing short skirts (they should not be rolled up and should be just above the knee in length) nor skinny / tight trousers. Students are also expected to wear black socks. The Policy goes on to say that coloured nail varnish and artificial nails will not be tolerated. Please see our Uniform and Equipment Policy on the website for a full list of what is acceptable.

Furthermore, you will also be aware that our First Impression Card (FIC) will reinforce our normal routines and will ensure all our students are rewarded for doing the right thing and the minority of students will be supported to form good FIC habits. I am delighted to say that our ASPIRE Reward Card will continue to reward students on a daily basis.

We expect parents/carers to support us on all issues regarding uniform and behaviour. However, please take this communication as formal notice of sending students home should their uniform not comply with our policy.

With regards to equipment, students in all year groups, must have as a minimum the following equipment:

- Black pen x 2
- Green pen
- Sharp pencil
- Rubber
- Sharpener
- 15cm ruler
- Pencil case
- A bag/rucksack that is large enough to hold all school equipment.

Year 7 & 8 students must bring their Knowledge Organisers everyday and a Reading Book on Thursdays.

Year 9 upwards should also have a scientific calculator. However, it is recommended that students in Years 7 and 8 also have a calculator of some sort. **Use of calculators on mobiles phones is not permitted.** For an extensive list of what is and is not acceptable, please see our website.

We look forward to welcoming all students back to the Academy next week.

Kind regards

**Mr M Avoth,
Principal**