

Our Ref: DC

26th July 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

As we come to the end of another academic year, I would like to take the opportunity to tell you how proud I am of the way the community continues to work together, supporting students to raise their standards and, ultimately, transform their lives. As we all continue to educate our students in one way or another and promote positive behaviour, I hope that they will mature into respectful young adults who will be able to thrive in their chosen pathway when they leave here in Year 11.

This year we have returned to normality and have enjoyed many celebrations, exciting and informative events and performances; there are far too many to name but have included: Student Voice Awards, Sports Day, Year 11 Prom, World Book Day, Royal Platinum Jubilee events, CPA trips, the Matilda Performance, the 'Teechers' Performance, Design and Technology trips, Y6 Transition days and Open Evening, Y8 Wise Up day, OGAT Art Performer of the Year, the PE Gold School Games Mark, Duke of Edinburgh Award, Mental Health Awareness Week, Accelerated Reader Awards and many sporting achievements.

In order that we can return in September (Friday 2nd September for years 7 and 11 and Monday 5th September for all other year groups), well prepared, refreshed and ready to learn, please can I ask for your support in ensuring that your child adheres to the following:-

Expectations

The overarching aim of our Behaviour Policy is to promote positive discipline for learning and to promote our 3 fundamentals to be safe, be respectful and be responsible. Above all, we expect students to have good manners, to be respectful to adults and peers and to take responsibility for their own actions and, importantly, their own learning.

Uniform Reminders (you can find our Uniform Policy [here](#))

Uniform standards are very important for the Academy and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for supporting us in ensuring our students look as smart as possible. As always though, it is worth remembering the following:

- Jewellery is not permitted. **If students are thinking about having ear or nose piercings, this must be done at the start of the summer holidays, as no student will be allowed to wear earrings or any other jewellery at any time.**
- Nails, makeup and false eyelashes – False eyelashes, false nails and nail polish are not permitted. **Please ensure that if students do have false nails or eyelashes, they must be removed before returning to school in September.** Makeup may only be worn discreetly; students will be supported to remove excessive makeup.
- Our Shoe Policy is clear and is explained in our Academy Planner, shoes must be plain black and free of embellishments. Gold logos, edging, big bows and other small splashes of colour are a breach of the policy. No trainers, boots, pumps or canvas shoes will be allowed, unless medical evidence is provided.



- Socks must be plain black and tights must be at least 40 denier.
- Shirts should be school shirts or plain white, long or short sleeved, shirt with a stiff collar.
- School trousers and skirts should be black, with school logo.
- Skirts must not be rolled up at the waist or 'bobbled' at the back or side. It is also important to note that the skirt is designed to be worn on the hips, not pulled up to almost chest height.
- Hairstyles and hair colour must be sensible and of a natural colour (check with your child's Learning Manager before considering dramatic changes if you are unsure), bobbles/bands must be black or purple, and should not be worn on wrists when not in use.
- Outdoor coats must be worn over blazers and removed upon entry to the Academy. Please note that hoodies, fur, denim and studded leather jackets are not allowed.
- Mobile phones must be switched off and kept in the bottom of the bag. If a phone is seen or heard then it must be handed over to a member of staff. The parent/carer will then have to collect the phone from school.
- Smart watches are not allowed to be worn in the Academy.

Equipment

Students must come equipped for school every day and must have their planner, a pen, a pencil and ruler (ideally in a pencil case) together with a scientific calculator. This is to ensure that they are well prepared for their lessons. If you are struggling with this, please contact your child's Learning Manager. Where students are issued with an accelerated reader book, this must be brought into the academy every day.

Attendance Punctuality

We need you to continue with your support in ensuring your child attends the Academy every day. Now, more than ever, attendance is the key to ensuring students access the exciting lessons we have planned to increase their life chances. A Department of Education Report highlights that '... pupils with no absence are 2.2 times more likely to achieve 5+ GCSEs 9 - 5 or equivalent and 2.8 times more likely to achieve 5+ GCSEs 9 - 5 or equivalent (including English and Mathematics) than pupils missing 15-20% of Key Stage 4 lessons.' Please be mindful that all holidays will be classed as unauthorised absence, if taken during term time. Only in extremely exceptional circumstances will a holiday be authorised. It is our duty to refer to cases to the Local Authority when a student goes on holiday during term time and the Local Authority may well issue a fixed penalty notice to parents and carers. We will, as always, continue to support all students and will meet their individual needs, please contact the Academy to discuss any issues you may have around the attendance of your child. In Year 11 students must have an acceptable attendance record to be able to attend the Prom.

Punctuality

We believe that our students should be punctual and should arrive on site no later than 08:15, allowing them to be seated in the classroom for a prompt start to Period 1 which begins by 08:25. This will help prepare them for arriving on time for work in the future. Students who do not arrive on time will be issued with an appropriate sanction.

The School Day

We look forward to welcoming our Year 7 and Year 11 students on Friday 2nd September 2022. Y11 students are to go to their tutor and Y7 students will have an assembly in the main hall at 08:25.

All other year groups are due to return on Monday 5th September 2022 and go to their normal Period 1 lesson at 08:25.

Time	Period	Comments/Actions
07:45 - 08:15	Before School	Students arrive at the Academy through either student services or the back gates
08:25 - 09:25	Period 1	Following their academy timetable
09:25 - 10:25	Period 2	Following their academy timetable
10:25- 11:00	Break/Tutor	Tutors will return to vertical mentoring groups with a mixture of students from Year 7 to Year 11. Each group will be assigned a country to represent and organised into continents. Africa, Americas. Asia, Europe, Australasia
11:00- 12:00	Period 3	Following their academy timetable.
12:00 - 13:30	Period 4	Contains half hour lunch blocks 1st floor first lunch – 12:00 to 12:30 Y7 second lunch – 12:30 to 13:00 Science/Ground Floor last lunch – 13:00 to 13.30
13:30 - 14:30	Period 5	Students to leave the academy via back gates or Student Services at 14:30
14:30 - 15:30	Enrichment	As part of our elective curriculum we offer multiple enrichment opportunities afterschool between 14:30 and 15:30.

I would like to thank you all for your continued support over the past academic year and I would like to wish you and your families a wonderful, restful summer break.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Cavill". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D" and a stylized "Cavill".

Mr D Cavill
Principal