

# Academy News

8th September 2023



Good afternoon

It was so wonderful to see our students, old and new, arrive at the Academy this week. It is a shame we couldn't have seen some of this sunshine in July!

This week we have hosted assemblies for all year groups stating our expectations inside and outside the classroom and have launched Class Charts as a way of monitoring and supporting good behaviour - it will allow students to spend their positive points in our 'rewards store' - more details will be provided by Mr Sansom in the coming weeks.

Generally speaking, uniforms are looking great and parents/carers have clearly been reading our communications about our expectations around uniform. We will continue to drive standards throughout the year.



In other exciting news, we have some very special visitors coming to the Academy in November. Hailing from Kampala Children's Centre in Uganda, we have a youth choir - Destiny Africa - who will be staying with us from the 13th to 16th November to join our community and will also be performing in assemblies and evening concerts to raise money for

the orphanage. Please take an opportunity to look at their website <https://www.destinyafrica.org/> and read about the fantastic Kampala Children's Centre in Uganda. In preparation for the visit, we will be hosting non-uniform days to financially support their cause. Nearer the time, I will share with you how you can support by buying tickets to the evening performances in our main hall. I have hosted this enigmatic choir three times since 2009 and I know it will bring great joy to our students and staff alike.

Our new Year 7 students have started really well and have been very eager to make the best start with us and make good impressions with their teachers, despite experiencing some issues with the school buses on Wednesday, for which Ipswich Buses have apologised.

Can I please take this opportunity to remind parents/carers that in view of the limited space available in the car park at the front of the Academy, parking restrictions are in place between **8.00-8.30am and 3.00-3.45pm** to facilitate the movement of the school buses. During these times, only students who have a special educational need and/or disability or have a medical condition which requires them to be dropped off and picked up near the school's main reception, can be driven in by car.

We need to keep this number as low as possible to maintain a safe site for our students. If you need to bring your child/ren on to site for the above reasons only, please contact us by Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September on [parents@holbrookacademy.org](mailto:parents@holbrookacademy.org) Where this is agreed, we will then arrange for a car pass to be issued to you which will need to be displayed on your car windscreen, easily visible to those staff on duty.

If you do need to drive onto the school site, please drive slowly and take particular care on the driveway as you approach the gates as there is a concealed entrance used by students and members of the public.

Finally, I would like to thank the staff and students for how they have started the term and I hope that this positive start will lead to further positive outcomes for our school.

George Anstee-Parry  
Acting Headteacher

## Calendar / Upcoming Events

15th September - School Photographer

19th September - Year 10 Information Evening (*details to follow separately*)

28th September - Year 11 Post 16 Pathways evening (*details to follow separately*)

2nd/3rd October - Open Morning

3rd October - Open Evening

12th October - Careers Fair at Ipswich High School

20th October - PD Day

### **Safeguarding Information**

During school hours, please contact Mrs Watson (Designated Safeguarding Lead) or Miss Crabtree (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead) - 01473 328317

At all other times, please contact Customer First : 0808 800 4005 or

If you believe there is an emergency and a child is at risk of **immediate harm** please call the Police on **999**.

### **Useful Information**

Links to support services:-

**Childline:** 0800 1111

**[The Wellbeing Hub 'Teen Tips'](#)** Log in information was provided to parents/carers on 26th May. Please contact the office if you would like the information sent to you directly.

**Online bullying** [www.thinkuknow.co.uk/](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/)

**Kooth** - Online counselling service and peer to peer support for young people aged 11-25: [www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com)

**Emotional Wellbeing Gateway website (Suffolk Infolink Directory)** – Information, advice and guidance on common mental health issues. Access to mental health services like the Emotional Wellbeing Hub  
[www.emotionalwellbeinggateway.org.uk](http://www.emotionalwellbeinggateway.org.uk)

**The Source website for young people** – Sources of information and advice important to young people in Suffolk, including emotional wellbeing support: [www.thesource.me.uk/wellbeing](http://www.thesource.me.uk/wellbeing)

**Mental Health Crisis** – Call 111, option 2

**Sexual Assault:** Call NSPCC 0800 136 663 or [help@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk)