

Academy News

3rd May 2024



Dear Parents / Carers,

As we approach the upcoming May bank holiday, I wanted to take a moment to extend my warmest wishes to you and your families. This long weekend provides a valuable opportunity for rest, relaxation, and quality time spent together. On Thursday, we welcomed Mrs Elliott, our Headteacher for September, into the Academy. We spent some time together sharing plans for September and getting to know the staff and students - this will be one of many visits this term.

Next week, Year 11 begin their exams - we would like to wish them all the best but of course will be with them during this time. For parents/carers of Year 11 students there is a separate communication with regard to Study Leave beginning after May half-term whereby the pupils are only required to attend their exams.

Calendar / Upcoming Events

6th May - Bank Holiday

7th May - Start of GCSE exams

23rd May - Year 7 Progress Evening *(details to follow)*

Attendance

Starting from Tuesday 7th May, we have our Summer '25 day Attendance Challenge', which is actually 24 days with the Bank Holiday. The end date will be Friday 14th June. There will be a Summer themed reward for those able to complete the challenge. We all know how important good attendance is at school. It supports students not only academically but emotionally and socially. Whilst the occasional day of absence may not seem to have much impact, the table below illustrates the cumulative effect on lost learning hours as overall attendance declines:

| % Attendance | Daily attendance | Days absence | Learning hours lost (5½ hours per day) |
|--------------|------------------|--------------|---|
| 100% | 190 days | 0 | 0 |
| 99% | 188 days | 2 | 11 |
| 98% | 186 days | 4 | 22 |
| 97% | 184 days | 6 | 33 |
| 96% | 182.5 days | 7.5 | 41½ |
| 95% | 180.5 days | 9.5 | 52½ |
| 94% | 179 days | 11 | 60½ |
| 93% | 177 days | 13 | 71½ |
| 92% | 175 days | 15 | 82½ |
| 91% | 173 days | 17 | 93½ |
| 90% | 171 days | 19 | 104½ |
| 89% | 169 days | 21 | 115½ |
| 88% | 167 days | 23 | 126½ |
| 87% | 165 days | 25 | 137½ |
| 86% | 163 days | 27 | 148½ |
| 85% | 161.5 days | 28.5 | 156½ |
| 84% | 159.5 days | 30.5 | 167½ |
| 83% | 158 days | 32 | 176 |
| 82% | 156 days | 34 | 187 |
| 81% | 154 days | 36 | 198 |
| 80% | 152 days | 38 | 209 |

This is what it means in reality for a young person's future:

| Attendance | Effect on Results (per GCSE or equivalent) |
|------------|---|
| 96 – 100% | +1.4 |
| 92 – 95.9% | -0.7 |
| 90 – 91.9% | -1.5 |
| 85 – 89.9% | -1.9 |
| 80 – 84.9% | -2.7 |
| 0 – 79.9% | -3.3 |

Safeguarding update: We had a notification from the National Crime Agency this week. Please read the letter on "Sextortion" [here](#). Please read this and speak to your child/dren about it. It is unusual for the NCA to send us information directly about a safeguarding issue so they obviously have major concerns about the impact of this crime on young people. You may also have seen articles in newspapers or seen it on the news this last week. We have also had some staff CPD on this topic as part of our response as a school. If you have any concerns or believe your child may have been affected by any issues relating to this please contact the safeguarding team via the school office at the school.

George Anstee-Parry
Acting Headteacher

Safeguarding Information

During school hours, please contact Mrs Sarah Watson (Designated Safeguarding Lead) or Miss Crabtree (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead) or ask to speak to a member of the Safeguarding team -
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**.

Parent View

We are keen for as many parents/carers as possible to complete this survey.

If you have not yet done so, please take a moment to complete the [Ofsted Parent View](#)

Improving School Attendance

Please follow the links for information on the importance of school attendance:-

[How to improve your child's school attendance and where to get support](#)

[Is my child too ill for school?](#)

Year 11 : Exams Support

Here are some links to managing exam stress

- [NHS Help your child beat exam stress](#)
- [Anna Freud: How to identify the signs of academic stress, and ways to help](#)
- [Student Minds – resources, tips and blogs about exam stress](#)
- [Ofqual: Coping with exam pressure – a guide for students](#)

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/

Kooth - Online counselling service and peer to peer support for young people aged 11-25: 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

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

Mental Health Crisis – Call 111, option 2

Sexual Assault: Call NSPCC 0800 136 663 or help@nspcc.org.uk