Academy News

21st June 2024



Dear Parents / Carers,

As the forecast predicts hot weather next week, we want to ensure the comfort and well-being of our students. Therefore, students will not be required to wear ties from Monday through Friday. Additionally, we encourage all students to stay hydrated, wear sunscreen, and bring a hat for outdoor activities. Teachers will be reminding students to drink water regularly and we will make sure that all classrooms are well-ventilated. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in helping us keep our students safe and comfortable during this warm spell.

As we near the end of the school year, we also bid farewell to our Year 11 students. They have shown incredible resilience and determination, and we are extremely proud of their accomplishments. We are eagerly looking forward to celebrating their hard work and achievements at the Prom this evening. It promises to be a memorable evening, and we are excited to see them enjoy this well-deserved celebration.

It is with great pleasure I can share with you that from September 2024, our SENCo, Kathryn Darby, will be joining the leadership team as Assistant Headteacher for Inclusion.

Congratulations to those students completing the Attendance 24 day challenge. The reward will be at lunch time on Thursday 27th June. Details will be shared with students in Form notices on Monday.

Calendar / Upcoming Events

25th - 27th June : KS3 Maths exams (details shared separately)

2nd July : Transition Day for new Year 7 students

2nd July : GCSE Art & Design Exhibition

4th July : Transition Evening for new Year 7 parents/carers

15th-19th July : Activities Week

19th July: End of term



Following last week's announcement regarding the changes to the times of the school day from September 2024, we have received one or two queries regarding drop off time for students in the morning. We would encourage parents/carers not to make any changes to the drop off time as this will ensure that all students are in their form room for 8.40am. We can confirm that the timetable for the 603 and 604 will be amended slightly with full details to be shared as soon as they are available.

I hope you all have the opportunity to enjoy the warmer weather this weekend.

George Anstee-Parry Acting Headteacher

Reminder about Parking and Drop off / Pick Up

Please continue to be considerate to our neighbours and the local community when using the roads around the Academy to drop off or pick up your child/children. Please also consider the impact of cars parking in the local area on residents and, if you are waiting to pick up, please remember to turn off your engine.

A reminder for those not already aware that 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 parents/carers who have a car parking pass will be able to come into the car park to drop off and pick up their children. If you try to come onto site without a pass you may be turned away.

An additional reminder that parents/carers should only come onto site outside of these times if you have an appointment or need to speak to someone in the office and not to drop students off as the car park is used by students throughout the school day.

Thank you.

Tips for helping children stay safe online - IWF / PIER

'Self-generated' child sexual abuse material (CSAM) has been the subject of research that PIER (Policing Institute for the Eastern Region) have just finished on behalf of the Internet Watch Foundation. 'Self-generated' CSAM are images and videos which are taken by children and then shared either:

- willingly, usually with a boyfriend/girlfriend, or
- unwillingly, through coercion, or
- shared by a third party without their consent.

Some of these images end up being distributed, sometimes sold, on the open and dark web by those with a sexual interest in children.

Just over 300 children took part in the research and talked about their experiences of growing up in a digital world, where they talk to their friends, game and do their schoolwork online. Many described receiving unwanted sexual images and some commented that it has become normalised and part of their lives. The apps they use, such as Snapchat and TikTok are also used by perpetrators to talk to children and groom them into sharing sexual images. This is a serious safeguarding issue, with wide-reaching consequences that we all need to learn more about.

PIER and IWF have written a blog post for parents about how they can better understand their children's online world and its risks. The blog post can be found here: https://www.iwf.org.uk/news-media/blogs/tips-for-helping-children-stay-safe-online/

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?

Catering Survey

As the Academy's catering provider, Caterlink have asked us to share the following link with parents/carers to obtain feedback on the service they provide.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CN9XYWJ

The survey will close on 31st July, following which feedback will be provided to us.

Parent View

If you have not yet done so, please take a moment to complete the <u>Ofsted Parent View</u>

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**.

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 Se

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