



May 2021

End of Term, Key Dates and RSE Education

Dear Family

It seems like this Half Term has passed in a heartbeat, but we are so glad to be approaching a return to normal. While this half term has seen a return to the classroom for face-to-face teaching, clubs, drama and visitors to site, we are looking forward to next half term where we hope restrictions will end and we can return to normal, as well as bring back trips, interschool sports fixtures and the much-requested football at lunchtime.

We believe we will get advice on this in mid-June and will share it with you as soon as we receive it.

Half Term and Return to the Academy

Students break up at the normal time on Friday 28th May 2021. Students should return to the Academy at the normal time on Monday 7th June 2021. We have significant building works taking place over half term and the Academy will be fully closed to staff and students during the half term holiday.

Inset Day

The Academy has its final Inset Day of the year on Friday 25th June 2021, students should not attend the Academy on this day.

Virtual Family Forum

Though we hope to have Parents' Evenings in person later in the year we will have to hold our Family Forum virtually. We intend to do this on Wednesday 9th June 2021 via Teams and will ensure we send the link out in the days before.

Uniform and Nails

As an Academy we try to operate an inclusive uniform policy but do have some clear guidance which we would remind students and families of. This includes students must not have false or long nails as these are an issue for practical subjects such as Art, Science and PE. Nail varnish, if worn, must be a natural colour. We would also mention our policy of no lines and symbols shaved into hair; hair must also not be dyed an unnatural colour.

At this stage all students are mature enough to ensure that they bring their tie and blazer, this is a matter of personal responsibility. Students who do not attend the Academy in correct uniform are lent the item if possible and then issued with a short detention. Our uniform guidance can be found on our [website](#).

We do operate a limited hardship fund and know how difficult it has been for families this year, if you are really struggling to replace an item of uniform please let us know and we will try and help.

Relationships and Sex Education

This year we are required to teach the new national policy on Relationships and Sex Education. This is a much-expanded set of lessons which covers all aspects of positive relationships, safety in relationships, health, different types of families, consent, e-safety and a number of items informing students of criminal offences such as FGM and forced marriage.

The Trust has now published the policy, which has been altered based on feedback from the consultation a few months ago and we thank you for your comments. You can find this on our [website](#) which includes topics taught year by year. There are a very limited number of areas that can be opted out of in the new framework and you can find more information in the policy. If you have concerns about this you can attend the Family Forum or ask for an appointment to discuss your concerns.

With the arrival of the internet it has never been more important that students receive Relationship and Sex education in a safe space by trained and qualified professionals. The government have recognised not to do so risks students getting a warped view of relationships from the internet and social media and risks them coming to harm through lack of knowledge and understanding.

I hope you will support us in this new curriculum which aims to keep students safe, informed and gain an understanding of positive happy relationships as they grow up.

Behaviour Inspection

On Wednesday and Thursday last week we had a two day inspection from our School Improvement Partner. The feedback was excellent and the summary said:

“All aspects of Academy life combine effectively to promote the outstanding behaviour of the great majority of students and the improvement of those who find appropriate behaviour difficult. Overall, students’ behaviour is outstanding.”

We were really pleased with this and though things are not always perfect, we try really hard every day to provide a safe and happy environment for your children.

Final Message

This has been a great half term, it has been wonderful to see the students back. I hope you all have a safe and restful break and we will look forward to seeing the students return to us in a week. I have included all of the Key Dates for next half term below. We thank you as always for your support.

Kind Regards

George Faux
Principal

Key Dates

Some key dates for your from now until the end of Term, some of these activities are dependent on the reduction of Coronavirus restrictions.

Activity	Date
Half Term Holiday Begins	End of Day Friday 28 th May
Return to Academy	Monday 7 th June
Family Forum	Wednesday 9 th June
Year 7 Parents Evening (Planned in Person)	Tuesday 15 th June
Inset Day - Academy closed to students	Friday 25 th June
Year 8 Parents Evening (Planned in Person)	Tuesday 29 th June
Rewards Trips and Year 6 Induction Days	8 th and 9 th of July
Awards Evening (Selected Invites)	Wednesday 14 th July
Careers Experience Day	Thursday 15 th July
Silent Movies Oscars	Thursday 15 th July
End of Term (Half Day)	21 st July
Summer School (Year 6)	22 nd to 28 th July