

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you and your family have enjoyed a restful summer break.

Before looking ahead to the new academic year, I would like to take the opportunity to celebrate the achievements of our students. We were delighted to see excellent outcomes in Key Stage 5, with many students securing places at their first-choice universities, apprenticeships and employment opportunities. We also saw improved outcomes at Key Stage 4, reflecting the hard work and determination of both students and staff. Alongside these overall successes, a number of students achieved outstanding individual results that they should be immensely proud of. We congratulate all of our Year 11 and Sixth Form students on their achievements and thank them for the positive contribution they have made to our academy community. We wish those moving on to the next stage of their education, training or careers every success and happiness in their future endeavours.

As we begin a new academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all students back to Sheffield Academy and remind families of some key information and expectations that will help ensure a successful start to the year.

Return to School Arrangements

Please note the following start dates for the new academic year:

- Thursday 3rd September at 8.30am – Year 7 students only
- Friday 4th September at 8.30am – All students return to school

We look forward to welcoming our new Year 7 students and seeing all students return ready to learn.

Attendance and Punctuality

At Ormiston Sheffield Community Academy we are committed to helping every student achieve their full potential, and excellent attendance plays a vital role in this.

Our expectation is that every student achieves 96% attendance or above. Good attendance is strongly linked to improved academic outcomes and enables students to fully benefit from their education.

The academy gates open at 8:15am and students should be on site by 8:30am, ready to begin the school day promptly. Students who arrive to form after 8.40am will be issued with a same day detention.

If your child is unable to attend school, please contact the academy before 9.00am on each day of absence, providing a reason for their absence. Where no contact is received, the absence will be recorded as unauthorised.

Where attendance is causing concern, the academy may request medical evidence to support absences due to illness. If concerns persist, parents/carers may be invited to attend attendance meetings so that appropriate support can be provided. Continued non-engagement with attendance support processes could result in legal action.

Broad Way, High Heath, Pelsall, Walsall. WS4 1BW **Principal:** Michael Riley

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If your child becomes unwell during the school day, we will contact you and request that they are collected from the academy. For safeguarding reasons, students who are unwell will not be permitted to leave the site unaccompanied.

Where possible, we ask that routine medical appointments are arranged outside of school hours.

Equipment

Students should arrive fully prepared for learning every day with:

- Black pen(s)
- Green pen(s)
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Suitable school bag
- Mobile phone pouch (to be issued in September)
- Study Skills booklet (to be issued in September)

Uniform Expectations

We maintain high standards of uniform and presentation. Students are expected to wear:

- Academy blazer with badge
- Academy tie
- Black trousers of an appropriate style or a black skirt of an appropriate length with black tights
- Plain black polishable shoes

Students should not wear coats or hoodies inside the academy building.

The only permitted jewellery is:

- Stud earrings only
- One nose stud
- One bracelet
- One ring

For PE lessons, students should bring:

- Blue Sheffield PE T-shirt
- Plain black leggings, shorts or tracksuit bottoms
- Sheffield tracksuit top or Sheffield PE hoodie (optional)

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Behaviour Expectations

We are proud of our academy values and expect all students to be ready, respectful and responsible

Our behaviour curriculum supports students in demonstrating these values throughout the school day. Students who fail to meet expectations may be issued with sanctions, including after-school detentions.

Common reasons for detention include:

- Lateness to the academy
- Lateness to lessons
- Incorrect uniform
- Lack of equipment
- Behaviour that is not conducive to learning
- Removal from lessons
- Persistent or serious behavioural concerns

We ask parents and carers to support us by reinforcing these expectations at home.

Mobile Phones

To support learning, wellbeing and positive engagement throughout the school day, all students will be issued with a mobile phone pouch. Students should place their phone in the pouch during tutor time and keep it stored securely until the end of the school day.

Mobile phones should not be used during lessons, social times or whilst moving around the academy. The pouch system will help us maintain a calm, focused and distraction-free learning environment while ensuring students retain possession of their device. Smart watches and earphones are not permitted in the academy.

We recognise that some students may require access to a mobile phone during the school day for specific medical reasons. If this applies to your child, please contact the academy so that individual arrangements can be discussed and agreed.

We ask parents and carers to support this expectation by ensuring students arrive at school prepared to place their phone in their pouch each morning. If you need to contact your child during the school day in an emergency, please do so via the main academy reception.

Communication with Families

Please ensure that the academy has up-to-date contact details for your family. We encourage all parents and carers to regularly check academy communications and notifications so that you remain fully informed about your child's progress, attendance and important academy events. Our main method of communication is via Arbor.

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If you would like to discuss your child, please call the academy and your call will be directed to the most appropriate staff member. We welcome parent meetings but these must be scheduled at a mutually convenient time. Parents/carers cannot be seen if they arrive without an appointment as staff members are busy teaching and supporting students throughout the academy day.

Working Together

We are looking forward to another successful year and remain committed to providing the highest standards of education, care and support for every student.

By working together to maintain high standards of attendance, behaviour, uniform and preparedness for learning, we can ensure that all students have the very best opportunity to succeed.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to welcoming students back in September and wish all our families a positive and successful academic year ahead.

Yours sincerely



Michael Riley
Principal

Key Dates

- Tuesday 1st September - INSET
- Wednesday 2nd September - INSET
- Thursday 3rd September - Y7 only
- Friday 4th September - All students return
- Tuesday 8th September - Y11 Parent Information Evening
- Friday 11th September - Individual Photographs
- Tuesday 15th September - Y12 Parent Information Evening
- Thursday 24th September - Year 6 Open Evening . Early closure for students.
- Thursday 15th October - Y12 Open Evening
- Thursday 15th October - Y7 Settling In Evening
- Thursday 22nd October - Year 10 Parents' Evening

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