

Friday, 9th September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Two weeks in, and what a positive start we've had. I've been really pleased with how our students have settled back into routines, lessons and expectations. Thank you for your support in ensuring that no time is lost in getting back to what we do best – working hard and being nice.

Attendance

Our Academy target is 97%, and I'm delighted that 723 of our students have, so far, 100% attendance. The majority of absence we've seen has come from illness, and I'm really keen to stress that minor illnesses and injuries can be managed in the Academy. If you pick up the phone or drop us an email and let us know what's wrong, our medical staff will keep an eye on your child. Similarly, if your child needs medication during the day, please drop it in to Reception with details and that can be dispensed appropriately throughout the day.

Year 7 settling in

It's been great to see our new cohort of year 7 students – TCA's Class of 2029 – starting their journey with us so confidently and proudly. They have overcome navigational challenges, new friendship groups and a complete change of routine and are thriving with the support of our staff. Thanks to all parents/carers for making sure this happens.

2023/24 GCSE outcomes

It's great to be able to report on another year of excellent exam results for last year's year 11 students. Whilst final progress figures aren't released by the Department for Education until later in the term, we are really pleased to report that it's likely that progress for students at TCA continues to improve, year on year. Those students picking up 4+ and 5+ in English and Maths, too, has improved again – with English and Maths at 4+ increasing by 1% to 62%, and 5+ in English and Maths going from 42% in 2023 to 44% in 2024.



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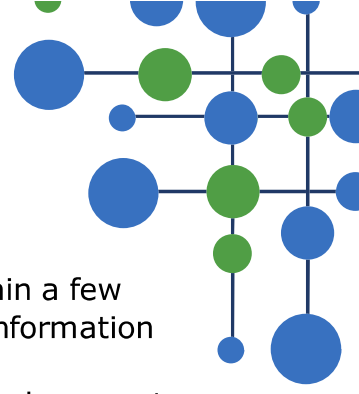
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Uniform

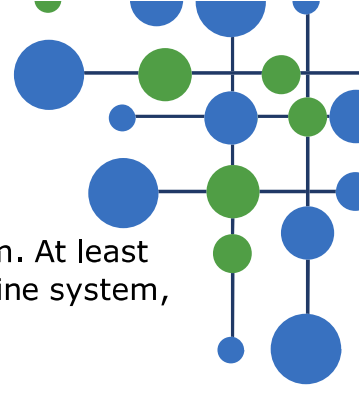
We have started the year looking exceptionally smart, but there remain a few minor details linked to uniform that we need to tighten up with. The information below was shared at the end of last year and will not change. Uniform expectations are not negotiable, and we will be in touch where standards are not met.

Uniform item	Notes
Academy tie	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Available on ParentPay, at TCA or from Rawcliffes, Dewsbury for £5
Academy blazer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Available from Rawcliffes, Dewsbury• Must be worn on corridors at all times
Black trousers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Full length trousers must be worn• Not leggings, jogging bottoms, tracksuit bottoms, jeans or jersey material• Not skin-tight fit
Black skirt	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must be knee length• Not stretchy/jersey material• Must be worn with black tights
Black socks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must be worn if wearing trousers
Black shoes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not trainers or pumps• Converse, Vans or anything made by a sportswear brand are not allowed
Salwar kameez	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If the neck is visible, a shirt and tie must be worn• Must be black or dark blue with no patterns
School bag	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Essential item – not negotiable• Must be big enough to carry PE kit, books and equipment
Jewellery	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• One ring• One small bracelet• One necklace (worn under the shirt)
Make up and piercings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• One small stud or sleeper in each ear lobe• One small nose stud• Discreet make up• No false nails or false eyelashes

We want to help wherever possible with uniform items for those who need it, so if you're struggling or need any support, do get in touch and ask. Equally, if you want to have clarification about an item which is not on this list, please ask before you buy it.

Parent/carer contact details

There are some parents who do not have up to date contact details on our systems. Ideally, we would have three contacts for every student, so please do



email Tanya.Elsegood@sharemat.co.uk to add details onto our system. At least one email address is important, too, to be able to access our new online system, Arbor, which I will message you about in a couple of weeks' time.

P6 sessions – Year 11

To provide your child with the best possible preparation for their mock and GCSE exams, year 11 students benefit from Period 6 sessions in all subjects. These sessions are delivered by the class teacher, after school, and provide bespoke revision to support your child to plug any gaps in learning and consolidate previously taught knowledge. The sessions will run after school until 3.45pm according to the following schedule:

Week A Core: Monday – English
 Wednesday – Maths
 Thursday – Science
Week B Options: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday

The first session will be on Monday 30th September. The sessions are compulsory and 100% attendance at these sessions will be rewarded with points towards various events including Gala Ball tickets. Please support your child to attend these sessions; they have a significant impact on students' outcomes.

Key dates for your diary

I will write about these in more detail over the coming weeks, but please do note down any of the following which relate to you or your child.

Open Evening	Thursday, 26 th September
Staff training day	Friday, 27 th September
Year 7 settling in day	Thursday, 10 th October
Year 11 parental revision evening	Wednesday, 16 th October
Year 11 Parents' Evening	Thursday, 7 th November

Two weeks in already, and it feels like we've never been away. I do hope you can take some time to enjoy the weekend with friends and family, before we head into our third week on Monday. It's been a great start to working hard and being nice from our students, staff and wider community. Let's keep it up!

Yours sincerely,

Mr Burton
Headteacher