



Padgate Academy

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Principal: Mrs M Barclay Bsc (Hons) NPQH

Our ref: MB/MS

15th July 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

Again, we approach the end of another busy year in the life of Padgate Academy. As you are aware, this year has been an eventful one, but one where the Academy has gone from strength to strength with many exciting plans for the future.

I am writing to let you know the arrangements for the last day of term and to provide you with some important information as we start to think about the next academic year.

As Principal, I continue to be immensely proud of both staff and students. We have worked hard since the re-brokering to look at the values which we as a community hold dear and we feel make our Academy such a special place to work and study in. It is true to say that our values of Trust, Tenacity and Teamwork are shown in abundance. There are too many individual achievements and celebrations to list but I believe that the incredible work that goes on here every day is a reflection of our aspirations that every child can be the very best that they can be. Particular thanks go to all the staff that have organised performances, trips, visits and enrichment opportunities this year, which contribute hugely to the life of the Academy.

I am sure you will join me in thanking all staff for their hard work and support for our students in striving for the very best outcomes.

I would also like to extend a huge thanks to both carers and parents for your support in helping us to maintain the high expectations that we have of all our students.

I would like to take this opportunity to express a huge thanks to Mr Diggle and Mrs Bale as they change roles in September to work directly with some of our students. They have both made a significant contribution to the progress that the Academy has made, but I know that they will both be working with the students who need them the most. We wish them every success in their new roles.

We also welcome Mr Syed, Vice Principal (Quality of Teaching), Mr. Vickery, Assistant Principal (Personal Development and Behaviour) and Mrs Williams, Teacher of Science, who take up post with us in September.

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Changes to the Academy Day

As you are already aware, the Academy will have a slightly later start time every Friday to facilitate staff training and development. We also continue to offer a free breakfast every day for all students in the canteen.

Monday to Thursday	
8.00 – 8.35	Free breakfast available for all students
8.40 – 8.50	Academic review
8.50 – 9.50	Lesson 1
9.50 – 10.50	Lesson 2
10.50 – 11.05	Break
11.05 – 12.05	Lesson 3
12.05 – 13.05	Lesson 4
13.05 – 13.50	Lunch/Academic review
13.50 – 14.50	Lesson 5

Friday	
8.30 – 9.35	Free breakfast available for all students
9.40 – 9.50	Academic review
9.50 – 10.50	Lesson 1
10.50 – 11.05	Break
11.05 – 12.05	Lesson 2
12.05 – 13.05	Lesson 3
13.05 – 13.50	Lunch/Academic review
13.50 – 14.50	Lesson 4

Uniform

Our school rules regarding uniform remain unchanged. All new uniform displays the new Academy badge. If you require any iron on badges for current blazers, please let your child's Form Tutor know.

All outdoor coats must be plain black or grey and hoodies will not be permitted under any circumstances; shoes must be plain black leather look, and of course, no training shoes.

Jewellery, including earrings, is not permitted for health and safety reasons and also because it is inappropriate for school wear. Extreme hair colours and styles are not encouraged and we request your co-operation in this matter.

New for September – Parent and Student SIMS App and Cashless Payment

To improve communication and to support your child's independent learning in September we are introducing a new feature to our SIMS app to allow parents to make payments for trips and catering online. We will write to you in September with the login information.

As a reminder, all letters from the Academy are now sent electronically and via social media. Please make sure that we have your most up to date contact details.

Holidays in Term Time

I must also draw your attention to important amendments to legislation surrounding holidays in term time.

Since September 2013, **the new law does not give any entitlement to parents to take their child on holiday during term time.** Any applications for leave of absence must be in exceptional circumstances and the Principal must be satisfied that the circumstances warrant the granting of leave.

Parents can be fined by the Local Authority for taking their child on holiday during term time without consent from the school.

In the academic year 2011 to 2012, **9.7% of all absences in England were due to parents taking their children out of school during term time.** This high level of absence led the DfE to make this important change to legislation.

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As an Academy, we fully appreciate the financial difficulties that some parents face when booking holidays, particularly during school holidays. However, there is an expectation that all schools introduce firm policies and stringent checks to ensure that there is a significant reduction in the number of absences during term time.

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Academy to thank you for your full support in this matter by not taking your child out of school during term time.

This new legislation is designed to bring about increased attendance and improving standards in all schools. Further information can be obtained from www.dfe.gov.uk

End of Term/Start of New Term

The Academy will close for the summer at 12.00noon on **Friday 19th July**

The Academy will re-open in September on **Wednesday 4th September** for all year groups at the following times:

Year 7	to be on-site by 8.40am
Years 8, 9, 10 and 11	to be on-site by 12.05pm

Examination Results

May I remind year 11 that GCSE results can be collected from the Academy on **Thursday 22rd August from 9.00am – 12.00noon.**

We wish all our students' good luck with their examination results in the summer and we look forward to welcoming students back in September.

Yours sincerely



Mrs M Barclay
Principal

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