

Our Ref: JP/JAS

13th September 2023



Wednesfield Academy
www.wednesfieldacademy.co.uk

Dear Parent/Carer

This letter is to inform you of some important updates and I would also like to take this opportunity to thank parents/carers for their ongoing support.

Planners

As you will be aware, all pupils have been given a school planner. This will enable all pupils to record homework and for parents/carers to write messages in for their child's Form Tutor to see. Please can you sign the planner each week, as this way the Form Tutor will know that you have seen any stickers or notes from staff, as well as viewed your child's homework. It is vital that your child brings in a bag each day to keep the planner and their books in. Every pupil needs to keep their planner in good condition and if they lose their planner they will need to purchase a replacement.

Support Services

Wednesfield Academy are proud to have a Mental Health Practitioner and School Counsellor who work with our pupils for a variety of reasons. If you feel your child would benefit from accessing these support services please let their Head of House know, who will be able to put this support in place. Equally, if you would like to know more details about this support, please contact the Head of House for further information.

Period 6 – Year 11 and 13

Year 11 and 13 pupils have already shown excellent attendance to their first few period 6 sessions. All of year 11 will be given a card which the teacher will sign to show their attendance, so you as parents can also closely monitor this. If your child is not doing a period 6 session in a subject that you feel they need extra support in, then please contact Mr Hill (Assistant Headteacher) by calling or emailing the school.

Classcharts

All parents (including Sixth Form) have a classcharts account for their child. On this app are all the behaviour and praise points, as well as their attendance. If you do not have access to this account, then please email the school postbox address and we will get this set-up for you.

Praise and Behaviour Points

Pupils can earn praise points and receive behaviour points throughout their school day. The accumulation of these can be seen via the Classcharts app and are monitored in school by Heads of House and Leadership. Should pupils receive behaviour points, appropriate sanctions will be issued. We prefer to celebrate with our pupils, therefore, there is a substantial rewards system being introduced this academic year. Through the accumulation of praise points, pupils can receive a range of rewards on a weekly, and termly basis. These rewards include free items from the school kitchen, vouchers, group experiences and trips. This system will be explained to pupils in the upcoming assemblies.



Wednesfield Academy
Lichfield Road
Wednesfield
Wolverhampton
West Midlands
WV11 3ES



Matrix
Academy Trust
EDUCATION WITHOUT EXCEPTION

01902 558222



Wednesfield Academy



wednesfield.academy



School Social Media

If you would like to follow Wednesfield Academy on social media, please find below the sites that it is on. Any other groups claiming to be Wednesfield Academy will be a fake account.

- Twitter – <https://twitter.com/WednesfieldAcad>
- Facebook – <https://www.facebook.com/wednesfieldacademy>
- Instagram – <https://www.instagram.com/wednesfield.academy/>

Please also find the link to the school's welcome video - [Welcome Video - Wednesfield Academy](#).

Social Media

Since returning from the summer, we have seen some very offensive posts online about pupils and teaching staff. This is upsetting for both staff and pupils, and I would ask parents to please closely monitor their child's social media. If you ever have any concerns then please do not hesitate to contact the school. It is also pivotal that if pupils receive any unpleasant content about others, then they do not share this with others. There is a section of our website dedicated to this, which some parents may find useful [Parental Online Safety Guides - Wednesfield Academy](#).

Calendar

Please find the following link to our website which contains the link for the school calendars for the academic years 2023-24 and 2024-2025 - [Calendar - Wednesfield Academy](#). Please see when the school Inset Days are so that you are aware that your child will not be in school on these dates: Monday 20th November 2023, Friday 1st December 2023 (Trust Day), Friday 22nd December 2023, Friday 19th July and Monday 22nd July 2024.

2023/2024 - CURRENT ACADEMIC YEAR

School Term and Holiday Dates 2023-2024

Month	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
August 2023	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
September 2023	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
October 2023	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
November 2023	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
December 2023	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
January 2024	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
February 2024	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
March 2024	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
April 2024	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
May 2024	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
June 2024	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
July 2024	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
August 2024	5	6	7	8	9	10	11

WJLAF/CHOO/TIMB/4058567/12/2023/2024

School Holiday

Public Holiday

Training Day

Trust Day

Autumn Term 2023:

Term Starts: Tuesday 5th September 2023
Half Term: Monday 30th October 2023 to Friday 3rd November 2023
Term Ends: Thursday 21st December 2023

Spring Term 2024

Term Starts: Monday 8th January 2024
Half Term: Monday 12th February 2024 to Friday 16th February 2024
Term Ends: Friday 22nd March 2024

Summer Term 2024

Term Starts: Monday 8th April 2024
Half Term: Monday 27th May 2024 to Friday 31st May 2024
Term Ends: Thursday 18th July 2024



Free School Meals

If you would like the school to check whether your child/children are entitled to free school meals please complete the questionnaire on the link below:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=hVh-eMTdUOWnV6udzkyo6lClufVnchh0uAzRzQ8BQotUNVo2QUxCMjhRSzl1SDRMUVZXR1FZNkhUMC4u>.

If you are a new parent to Wednesfield Academy but your child has moved to us from a school in Wolverhampton, you do not need to reapply as your entitlement transfers across automatically. If you are a new parent from a school outside of Wolverhampton however, you will need to apply using the link above. If your circumstances have changed and you would like to submit a new application, please use the link above. This link was sent to all parents/carers at the end of last academic year so you do not need to complete it again if you did so before the summer holidays.

If you need any support, please email postbox@wednesfieldacademy.co.uk with the subject FSM.

Sixth Form Dress Code

It is important that our Sixth Form prepare themselves for further education and the world of work. Please can you help ensure that they are dressed appropriately, and aligned with the high standards we expect. More information can be found on the following section of the school website - [Dress Code - Wednesfield Academy](#).

Wednesfield Friends

Wednesfield Friends are a group of parents and staff who work together to organise events for our school and the local community. The group organised a number of successful events last year including our well attended summer fayre. They are now getting plans underway for this year. If you are interested in becoming part of the Wednesfield Friends, please email postbox@wednesfieldacademy.co.uk or alternatively call 01902 558222.

Sparx Maths

The mathematics department are delighted to let you know that pupils will be completing their maths homework with Sparx Maths this academic year. Sparx is an exciting online platform that offers every pupil a personalised maths homework. We know that you want to support your child's maths progress so we have put together this letter to explain how Sparx works and why it is important to make sure that maths homework is 100% completed.

How does Sparx homework work?

Sparx personalises each child's homework, creating a weekly set of questions tailored to their level of understanding and learning pace. The questions are designed to be achievable whilst offering the stretch that learners need to make progress. Each week, topics are set by your child's maths teacher and will make up the majority of the homework questions. Questions from previous topics will also be included in the homework so that pupils can keep practising the skills they have learned.

How can I help my child with their homework?

We appreciate that you will of course want to support your child with their home learning which is fantastic and what we want. However, please try not to help them with a question until they have had a go first. It is really important that they complete their homework independently, and that questions are marked as correct. They can watch the support video if they need to. This way, Sparx can make sure your child continues to see homework that is at the right level for them.



Why does my child need to achieve 100% compulsory homework completion?

Sparx Homework is deliberately designed to help pupils really get to grips with and understand the concepts and skills they are learning by ensuring they cover the essential building blocks needed to make progress in maths. Sparx' research (www.sparx.co.uk/evidence) has shown that an average of 60 minutes a week of this type of personalised maths home learning leads to clear progress. It is therefore advised that pupils do their homework as early as possible, so they have the time to have a go themselves and seek help from their teacher if needed. Homework is not marked as complete until all of the compulsory questions have been answered correctly, so starting early is key to finishing before the homework deadline. Pupils will be shown how to log in during their Maths lessons. Pupils need to initially set up their account by typing in Sparx Maths on Google and then entering the following:

School: *Wednesfield*

Username: *First Name and Last Name*

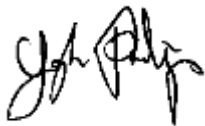
Any login details can be reset by your child's Maths Teacher. You can keep track of your child's homework completion in the weekly email you will receive from Sparx. We hope you agree that Sparx will play an exciting and important role in helping your child's understanding, success and confidence in maths to grow.

Carousel

Over the next two weeks the Science department will be introducing their classes to Carousel (more information can be found on their website - www.carousel-learning.com). If you have any queries after your child is set-up on this website then please contact the school and we will be able to assist.

If you have any questions please email postbox@wednesfieldacademy.co.uk or call 01902 558222.

Yours faithfully



Mr Phillips
Headteacher



Wednesfield Academy
Lichfield Road
Wednesfield
Wolverhampton
West Midlands
WV11 3ES



Matrix
Academy Trust
EDUCATION WITHOUT EXCEPTION

01902 558222



Wednesfield Academy



wednesfield.academy

