

Our Ref: JP/JAS/KeyUpdates

7th March 2024



Dear Parent/Carer

This letter contains key updates on Parents' Evenings, revision resources, trips and other aspects of school life. The information relevant only to Year 11 and 13 is at the bottom of the letter. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact your child's Head of House or the Sixth Form office by calling 01902 558222 (or the temporary number 0121 366 7751) or emailing postbox@wednesfieldacademy.co.uk.

Parents' Evening

We are looking forward to the online Year 9 Parents' Evening next Wednesday 13th March 2024. A number of parents are yet to sign up for appointments and if you are struggling to make appointments, please refer to the guidance (<http://wednesfieldacademy.com/bookings/>). If this does not solve the issue then email Mr Billingham (Assistant Headteacher) at postbox@wednesfieldacademy.co.uk and he will be able to assist. Thank you to those parents who have already booked; we want to see online as many parents there as possible.

Revision Resources

As outlined in the previous communication, we are thrilled to launch the revision section of the website. Please find it through the following link if you have not already seen this: [Revision Resources - Wednesfield Academy](#). A number of the resources are for GCSE subjects, however the strategies and advice about revision can be applied to all year groups. We have also started Study Hall in the library after school from 3.00pm to 4.00pm each day for any Year 11 pupils who would like to come and revise while having tea, biscuits and support from teachers with their work. If your child is in Year 11 and does not have period 6 on that day please do encourage them to attend. Other year groups are still always welcome to attend the library after school.

If you have any queries regarding revision or Study Hall please do not hesitate to contact Mr Billingham (Assistant Headteacher) by calling the school or emailing postbox@wednesfieldacademy.co.uk.

Tour de Wednesfield

Wednesfield Academy is raising money for Comic Relief. Please see the attached poster for our upcoming house competition. Pupils will cycle on the school spin bikes attached to a monitor to track how many miles they travel. The challenge is to cycle 430 miles in total; the distance that you would have to travel to ride to Paris! Already a number of our pupils are extremely excited about taking part.



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Lichfield Road
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Abuse Online

We would like to thank all the parents who have contacted the school, and pupils who have informed us of recent posts online regarding members of staff. These abusive comments and videos are mainly circulating on TikTok, and some are of a very offensive/personal nature about school staff. In some cases, the accounts have pictures of teachers' children which is very upsetting. We have reported these posts to the online platforms and are waiting to see if action is taken. In the meantime, please encourage your children not to follow these fake profiles. If the accounts were created by a pupil at Wednesfield Academy and we became aware of this, they would have the most serious of consequences.

Accessing Free School Meals

Please find attached the previous correspondence sent which outlines how parents can check if their child is eligible for Free School Meals. From our records we believe that some pupils are not accessing free school meals even though they may be entitled. If you are unsure as to whether this affects your child, please contact Mrs Hayward by calling the school or via postbox@wednesfieldacademy.co.uk.

Year 9 Options

As outlined in earlier communication, Year 9 pupils are currently receiving their options assemblies. Please find below a link (<https://bit.ly/3IjVqIF>) to the Year 9 options booklet that is now available to view on our website. A copy of this booklet has also been sent to your child's school email address.

Please look at this and discuss with your child which options will be best suited for them and do contact Mrs Beazley (Deputy Headteacher) by calling school or emailing postbox@wednesfieldacademy.co.uk if you have any questions.

National Careers Week 4th – 8th March 2024

This week we have been celebrating National Careers Week. Pupils have been involved in activities in both lessons and tutor time to help support their understanding of careers and the opportunities we have in school to support pupils with their ideas and aspirations. Pupils have appreciated the opportunity to hear from some of our external partners such as Dudley College and Sandwell College. We are working hard to ensure that the number of meetings pupils have with external providers continues to grow.

We are always looking to improve our provision so if as a parent/carer you would like to get involved please complete the short survey on the link <https://forms.office.com/e/KzWvraVTsv>.

Pupil Equipment

A number of pupils are arriving to school without a bag or equipment. Please can you ensure that your child always brings a bag to school, and the stationery that they need. For more information on the equipment that your child needs for school please see our website ([Uniform - Wednesfield Academy](#)). If you need any financial support in purchasing your child a bag or equipment please do not hesitate to contact the school and we will look to provide this.

Pupil Progress Reports

All pupils have now received at least one progress report since the start of the academic year. If you are concerned about your child's progress, please contact your child's Head of House to discuss the report. It is crucial you are receiving these reports and understand the reporting process.

Previously the school has graded pupils on their attitude to learning (ATL); this year this has been broken down further into effort in lessons, homework grades and behaviour. This helps you as a parent/carer as well as the school identify potential issues within your child's progress/learning.



Reports - Progress Grade

Alongside your child's effort grades parents/carers will also receive a progress grade. In Key Stage 5 (Years 12 and 13) students will receive a predicted grade based on what their teachers believe they will achieve at the end of Year 13. Teachers will use classwork, home-study, assessments, and subject knowledge to devise this predicted grade.

In Key Stage 4, (Years 10 and 11) pupils will receive a predicted grade based on what their teachers believe they will achieve at the end of Year 11. Teachers will use classwork, homework, assessments and subject knowledge to devise this predicted grade.

In Key Stage 3, (Years 7, 8 and 9) pupils will receive one of the following three codes:

- T – working towards their expected level
- A – working at their expected level
- B – working beyond their expected level

As a school we wanted to create a strategy where parents are clearer about their child's progress in each of their subjects. Wednesfield Academy previously provided 'working at' grades which did not make it clear to parents early enough as to whether their child was on track to reach their target grades at the end of Year 11.

This strategy considers pupils' starting points (Key Stage 2 data/SATS levels) and allows teachers to present to stakeholders whether they are happy with an individual pupil's progress.

How can I help my child to improve further?

- Ensure your child completes all homework to the very best of their ability.
- Ensure your child is equipped and ready for learning every day.
- On the school website we have uploaded what content your child will be covering over the next term ([Curriculum - Wednesfield Academy](#)). Please look over this content with your child and if your child does some pre-reading around the topics that are coming up before they are covered in lessons this will help them understand the background context.

Attendance

GREAT NEWS! Between 22nd January and 19th February 2024, Wednesfield Academy's whole school attendance was above National Average. This is down to the hard work of parents and carers encouraging pupils to attend school even when they are feeling under the weather. We encourage you to send pupils into school every single day possible and if we deem them too poorly, we will authorise them to be collected and go home. We ask all parents and carers to report a child's absence to school via a telephone call or emailing postbox@wednesfieldacademy.co.uk on the day of the absence and provide medical evidence when needed. Thank you again for all your hard work on this matter.

Year 11 and 13

Summer Exam Timetable

Please find attached the final summer examination timetable for the May/June 2024 GCSE and A-Level examinations. It is imperative that pupils attend their examinations and parents will be charged for any examinations missed, with their child's qualification certificates not released until this fee is paid. It is an obvious but important statement that pupils will not reach their full potential if they do not sit all their papers.

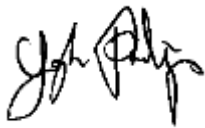


Year 11 Destinations Survey

In order to support your child during this important stage of their education and to support them with their next steps, we would appreciate it if they would complete the Destinations Survey sent out to them directly via their school email but also linked here <https://forms.office.com/e/h1DDYRsXj9>. We want to thank the 70 Year 11 who have already completed this. The deadline for completion is Friday 8th March 2024 so if your child has not already completed this they must do so immediately.

Thank you for your ongoing support, and a final reminder that as outlined in the letters on 29th January and 19th February 2024, the half day trust moderation is on Wednesday 13th March 2024 and all pupils will finish at 12.40pm on this day.

Yours faithfully



Mr Phillips
Headteacher

Remember to follow us on social media.

Facebook: <https://bit.ly/3pV9Fhm>

Twitter: <https://bit.ly/43tYv0J>

Instagram: <https://bit.ly/3OmrBEP>



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HOUSE COMPETITION TOUR DE WEDNESFIELD

Cycle virtually
Wednesfield to Paris (430 miles)

We are raising money for comic relief.
Please use the QR code below to donate.



FRIDAY
15TH
MARCH



COMIC
RELIEF

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Our Ref: JP/VH/RMO

30th January 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Accessing Free School Meals Provision

As you may be aware your child is entitled to free school meals and has an allowance to use in school at break and lunch time to support this.

From our records, it appears that your child is not accessing this provision. We are contacting the parents of pupils where this is the case to ensure that you are aware of what that means and to ask if there is anything we can do as a school to help with this element of school support.

Pupils have access to 80p at break time to be spent on food only and £2.20 at lunch time, which can be used on a hot or cold meal deal. Pupils are also able to access free breakfast from 8am every day in our breakfast club.

For your convenience the school menu is linked here:

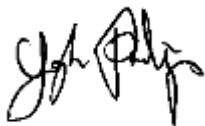
[Catering - Matrix Academy Trust](#)

As parents you can “top up” your child’s account should you wish to supplement the amount allocated to them as described above.

As your child is already eligible there is not anything that you need to do other than to encourage them to use their allowance.

If you are unsure or if you would like to discuss this further, please contact the school through postbox@wednesfieldacademy.co.uk or through main reception on 01902 558222 asking for Mrs Hayward (Assistant Headteacher).

Yours sincerely



Mr Phillips
Headteacher

