

Our Ref: JP/JAS/UpdateDec

2nd December 2024



Dear Parent/Carer

This letter provides some important information from the local Police and updates from Wednesfield Academy.

As outlined in previous correspondence, this Thursday 5th December 2024 is a GCSE and A-Level Moderation Day, which means that all pupils will finish school at 12.40 pm on this date. If your child is in receipt of Free School Meals and would like to take a lunch home with them please can you email postbox@wednesfieldacademy.co.uk with your child's name and form so we know how many dinners to prepare.

We are also excited to invite you to our Christmas Fair on Thursday 5th December 2024 from 5:00 to 8:00 pm and hope to see as many of the local community there as possible.

Update from the Local Police

We have recently received valuable information from our local Police regarding the ongoing efforts to tackle knife crime and ensure the safety of young people in our community. The Police emphasise the importance of awareness and early intervention to prevent knife-related incidents. They urge parents to have open conversations with their children about the dangers of carrying or being involved with knives, highlighting the serious legal and personal consequences.

Additionally, they encourage families to be vigilant about potential warning signs, such as changes in behaviour or unexplained possessions. Schools, community groups, and law enforcement are working together to provide education and support, aiming to create a safe and positive environment for all young people.

How to have THAT conversation with your child:

1. Find a quiet and comfortable time to chat.
2. They might be reluctant to talk to you. So open use a recent news event as a conversation starter.
3. Discuss knives and how you both feel about them being used – you are there to listen and support them.
4. Tell them even when they feel they do not have choices, they do.
5. Explain that knives do not give protection. Carrying one could be a prison sentence or getting hurt yourself.
6. Say the bravest thing to do is walk away from a dangerous situation.
7. Explore excuses for your child to walk away. They might have to pick up their little brother, or arrange for you to call them if they send you a message.
8. Reassure them that most people do not carry knives.



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If you are concerned about your child or a young person you know please reach out to your Pastoral team or school intervention officers. You can also call the **NSPCC on 0808 800 5000** for advice. To report knife carrying, exploitation, or violence call **101**. In an emergency, or if it's **happening now**, call **999** immediately and ask for the Police. To discuss a concern anonymously you can call **Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111**.

School Uniform

As we approach the festive season, we would like to take this opportunity to remind all parents and pupils of the importance of adhering to our school uniform policy, which continues to be in place throughout the festive period. We understand that the festive season can be a time for celebration, and we appreciate the enthusiasm that pupils may have for expressing themselves. However, we would like to reiterate that our uniform expectations must be always followed, including during this period.

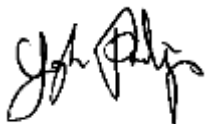
To clarify, the following are not permitted under our current uniform guidelines:

- False nails or nail varnish, including BIAB gel.
- Fake eyelashes.
- Facial piercings (including tongue piercings).
- Extreme hairstyles or colours.
- Additions such as hair glitter or tinsel.

Should any pupils attend school with breaches of the uniform policy, normal procedures will be followed to address this, in line with our usual approach to uniform expectations. We appreciate your understanding and co-operation in ensuring that all children maintain the high standards that we set for them. If you have any questions or need further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact your child's Head of House by calling 01902-558222 or emailing postbox.

Thank you for your continued support and a final request, when emailing postbox please can parents put their child's name and form group to enable the school to deal with you request as quickly as possible.

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>

