



Armthorpe Academy

Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions

9th July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Another incredibly busy week in the Academy with the technology showcase (see our twitter feed for pictures), Year 6 transition taster days and Year 10 visiting New College to participate in some Post-16 taster sessions. The week ahead will be easily as busy ...

Student Council

We were blown away with the quantity and quality of applications from students to be part of our Student Voice Leadership Team from September. We have appointed a team of 52 students from the full age range, who will be presented with certificates to mark their achievement on Monday. Pin badges have also been ordered for September. Interviews for the senior positions will take place on Tuesday. Our students have some amazing ideas; we are looking forward to the contribution the SVLT will make to help lead improvements at the Academy from September.

Rewards and Non-Uniform Day

Our half termly reward takes place on Thursday next week. We will be running a Summer Carnival in the Sports Hall for the top 50% of students in each year group. The day will also be non-uniform. Next year, we will be supporting a local charity to be decided upon by the student council. We ask that if students wish to wear non-uniform, they bring a contribution of either 50p or a £1 which will be donated to the chosen charity when we return in September. Please ensure your child wears suitable clothing. Any tops or shorts should be of a reasonable length; we do not want to low cut tops, mid-riff on show or shorts/skirts that will draw unnecessary attention to individuals. Students who have PE, must still bring PE kit to change into on Thursday. Other than the reward activity lessons will continue as normal.

Careers/Enrichment Opportunities Over Summer

We are now working in close collaboration with the Doncaster Opportunities and Careers group. Please see the attached documentation for opportunities that are available for our students in the local community.

Enrolment Day

Many thanks to parents/carers who have already booked an appointment for Enrolment Day on Friday 3rd September. Appointment times will be distributed towards the latter end of next week. If you have yet to make an appointment, please do so before Tuesday 13th July at noon, otherwise an appointment time will be allocated for you. Please use the link below.

<http://bitly.ws/f4FV>

COVID update

You may be aware that the government has announced this week that all school children should be offered two Lateral Flow Devise tests at an Asymptomatic Testing Site (school), 3-5 days apart, on their return to school in September. This means, with parental consent, we must replicate the process we implemented when we returned to school in March following the last lockdown. Tests need to be completed at school so they can be registered and recorded for national monitoring purposes.

The most significant difference this time is that our students are now very familiar with the testing process. They showed great responsibility and maturity the first time, so we are confident that this should be a relatively seamless process to get all our students back into school as quickly as possible in September whilst maintaining a safe environment. As you can imagine, with this latest timely announcement, we have had to plan quickly. I will confirm details next week, but at present we are planning the following:

Headteacher: Mrs C Robbins • Mere Lane, Armthorpe, Doncaster DN3 2DA • Tel: (01302) 831582 • www.armthorpeacademy.org.uk

- An online form will be emailed to parents next week to confirm consent (same process as previously).
- To ensure all students have had the opportunity for a first test before Enrolment Day on the Friday, we will be opening our AST on the Wednesday and Thursday – this is so we can get your children back into school as soon as possible. Testing will be conducted at the following times. As you can see, we are on a very tight schedule therefore students should arrive at the respective time for their year group.
- Students need to bring a smart phone to enable them to register and record their result with support from staff. This will significantly speed up the process and allow more people to be tested at one time. Should your family not have a smart phone, please do not worry, school staff will complete registration.

Date	Year Group	Time
Wednesday 1st September	7 – Test 1	4:00 – 6:00 pm The leadership team will run this session after the staff training.
Thursday 2nd September It is not necessary for students to wear school uniform for test one.	11 – Test 1	8:30 – 10:00 am
	10 – Test 1	10:30 – 12:00 am
	9 – Test 1	12:30 – 2:00 pm
	8 – Test 1	2:30 – 4:00 pm
Friday 3rd September All students will need to wear school uniform.	Enrolment Day as planned for all students.	Individual family appointment to be emailed.
Desks will be socially distanced to enable one parent/carer to attend with each child. We recommend Parents/Carers complete a LFT at home prior to arrival. Students will attend their 30 minute appointment as planned and then go home.		

The following week, we will need to slightly stagger start times until second tests have been completed:

- **Year 7** will return to school as planned on **Monday 6th September at 8:30am**. The second test will be completed immediately and then students will begin to follow their timetable. Attendance from this point onwards is compulsory.
- **Year 11** will return on **Monday 6th September at 11:00am**. Testing will be completed and then students will return to lessons, unless obviously a positive result is returned in which case parents/carers will be contacted immediately.
- **Year 10** will return on **Tuesday 7th September at 8:30am**. Testing will be completed and then students will return to lessons.
- **Year 9** will return on **Tuesday 7th September at 11:00am**. Testing will be completed and then students will return to lessons.
- **Year 8** will return on **Tuesday 7th September at 1:30pm**. Testing will be completed and then students will be ready to return to school on Wednesday.

Testing Over the Holidays

Government guidance states there is no need for students to continue to test at home over the Summer break, unless they are attending a school or college setting. If you wish to continue testing as a family, testing kits are widely available at local pharmacies. Twice weekly home testing will resume when we return to school in the month of September. We will order sufficient test kits to use during September that will be distributed to families on Enrolment Day.

The start to the year is obviously more disjointed than we would like, however sadly life is still not 'normal' as yet, therefore I hope you understand that we have tried to minimize disruption as much as possible.

Thank you in anticipation for your understanding and support.

Kind regards



Claire Robbins
Headteacher

