



Armthorpe Academy

Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions

10th September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you all had a relaxing and enjoyable summer break. It appears the best of the British Summer weather has been reserved for our return to school! We are delighted to be back. The academy has been calm and purposeful this week and our students look fantastic! Thank you to all parents/carers for supporting and working with us to ensure our new expectations are met.

COVID Testing

The mass testing has been extremely effective this week. Thank you to the majority of parents who consented. The testing identified a handful of positive cases, which highlights the importance of students continuing to test at home to help reduce the spread of the virus to protect us all. Students now have enough kits to test until the end of September. Please ensure your child completes a lateral flow test every Sunday and Wednesday evening. In the event of a positive test, please use the attendance email to inform us immediately.

Enrolment Day

We were delighted that 83% of families attended our first ever enrolment day. Having not seen many of you for over a year, it was lovely to be able to speak to parents/carers face to face. We hope that the event was useful in providing you with improved communication about various events planned throughout the year, the curriculum our students are following and new initiatives we have launched. It has been great to see that many parents and students have already downloaded Class Charts. If you were unable to attend the event, enrolment packs can be collected from reception.

We are always keen to listen to parents and welcome your views. The attached link will only take a couple of minutes to complete; we would welcome your feedback to help us know what you found useful and what could be improved for next year.

<https://bit.ly/3BVB57d>

Enrichment Activities After School

All clubs listed on the enrichment timetable (section 7 of the enrolment pack) will begin on Monday 13th September. Clubs begin at 2:45pm and finish at 3:45pm. Pre-booking is not necessary. Room numbers for all clubs will be displayed in the main canteen from Monday.

Weekly Menu

Thankfully, following the reduction of COVID restrictions, we are now able to offer all students the same menu option from our main canteen at both break and lunch time. For parents interested, weekly menus will be posted each Friday in the latest news section on our school website. If you prefer, a picture will also be posted on our Twitter social media account @ArmthorpeDN3.

Upcoming Events

Year 11 Study Skills Evening

We will be running a variety of sessions on Tuesday 21st September for Year 11 students, parents and carers to help families understand the most effective revision techniques and independent study skills to use in preparation for GCSE examinations. We would like to see as many families as possible. We will be planning the evening using group carousels in order to make the evening as interactive and informative as possible. The evening will begin at 5:30pm and conclude at 7:00pm. Please use the form below to book a place and confirm your attendance.

<https://bit.ly/3AeFfqt>

School Photographs

A professional photography team will be in school on Thursday 23rd September to take individual photographs of all students. Further details will be sent regarding purchasing arrangements in due course.

Drinks Around School

Following a few queries from parents regarding drinking, I'd just like to clarify the rules and reason for their inception. Water can be drunk in classrooms during lessons and at break and lunch time whilst students are sat in the dining areas. Food or drink cannot be consumed walking between lessons or in outside areas at social times. Choice behaviour has led to this decision. Sadly, despite several conversations with our students throughout the course of last term, we experienced continual problems with littering, which included food and drink bottles being discarded on the Astroturf and tennis courts despite several bins around the area. Students were given the opportunity to rectify this behaviour choice as a collective the rubbish left did not improve. The Astroturf and tennis courts are used as learning spaces, they are also leased for community use on an evening. Health and safety are paramount. Since the inception of the new rule, the playing areas are now much safer for everyone and there has been a significant reduction in litter around the school site. Just to clarify any misconceptions, students can move into and out of the dining area at will, but drinks will not be permitted on the Astroturf until our students learn that all unwanted food and drink and empty cartons must be disposed of appropriately in a bin. Our first school value is respect. We will re-evaluate once the canteen areas are at the standard all of us would expect in our own homes. Children are not being stopped from drinking. We are fortunate to have such a fantastic facility such as the Astroturf, but our students must learn to respect the environment, a life skill I am sure you also encourage and expect at home.

Thank you for your continued support. Have a good weekend!

Kind regards



Claire Robbins
Headteacher