

Trentham Academy

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Dear Parents and Carers

It is with great enthusiasm we welcome back our community again and a special welcome to our new Year 7 cohort and other students new to Trentham Academy. We hope everyone is settling into the new routines of academy life. It is wonderful to have all the students back in specialist teaching rooms and able to enjoy a greater range of sports and extra-curricular activities.

During assemblies this week, with all students back in the Academy, we have shared our high expectations again. We have spoken about the importance of our core values - Respect, Integrity, Optimism and Responsibility and reminded them of our motto - *Aspire Endeavour Achieve* – which, to our community, means dream big, work hard and persevere to be successful. The students looked stunning in their uniform and are real ambassadors for our Academy.

We know there have been several supply issues in many shops at the moment and this has affected the uniform suppliers too. If you are still having problems sourcing items of uniform, please write a note for your child and let us know if we can help to resolve the problem.

A gentle reminder

Students are now allowed to wear a plain gold or silver stud in one or both ear lobes. No other jewellery or piercings are permitted. We ask for your support in this as this has been our practice for the last few years as part of our uniform standards. All students have been reminded in assembly this week

School Gateway

We have experienced some administrative problems with the links between our school database and the school gateway system. Please accept our apologies for the frustration this has caused. We are working hard to ensure this is resolved as quickly as possible.



Lateral Flow Tests

We have now completed two lateral flow tests in the Academy with all students who consented to testing. Today, students have received 2 boxes of home LFT tests and we ask that they continue to test until the government updates its advice to schools. If your child was absent from school today, please ask them to collect tests from the office before school or during tutor time on Monday. This will really support us in controlling the spread of Covid 19 and allow our community to continue to enjoy face to face teaching.

Open Events

On Thursday, 7 October, the Academy will be open for prospective parents and students to visit. We will also be holding tours throughout the week, including a Saturday for anyone unable to attend at other times. These events will be bookable via our website and social media from early next week. Please encourage any family and friends who have Year 6 children to come along and visit.

In addition, there will be a Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday, 24 September. This is also for Year 6 parents so they are able to visit the Academy and support Macmillan. Again, this will be bookable from our website and social media next week. We also recognise that some Year 7 parents may not have had the opportunity to come around and you are more than welcome to join us on the Open Evening, mornings or the coffee morning. It would be lovely to see you there.

Parents' Evenings

On Thursday, 23 September we will hold our first Parents' Evening. For Year 7 and Year 8 this will be an opportunity to meet your child's form tutor in person. For Year 10 and 11, this will be an opportunity to meet your child's new form tutor and we will share guidance for exam success with parents and students. Full details will be provided soon.

Year 11 Period 6 sessions

Additional sessions for Year 11 have proved to be very successful in improving outcomes for our students in previous years. With this in mind, Period 6 sessions will begin for Year 11 on Monday 13 September. All Year 11 students are expected to attend Science on Monday, English on Tuesday and Maths on Thursday until 4.15pm next week. Sessions for preference subjects will run over the following 2 weeks. A full timetable will be issued to Year 11 next week with details of the Period 6 rotation. Your support with this is crucial to ensure your child engages with the activities to support and consolidate their learning and preparation towards their Mock exams which are 7 weeks away. These Mock exams are very important and could be used as evidence should the exams be disrupted again this summer.

Student successes

A Year 9 student, Tia, continues to develop her love of writing, she has now had three pieces of her work published through winning writing competitions with the Young Writers. Two of her recent achievements include being chosen to have her epic published in a book that will be in the British library's national archives titled, 'Spine Chillers 2021- twilight terrors' and being chosen to have



another of her works published in the book Unsolved- stories from the UK. A fantastic achievement – well done.

Students' swimming achievements outside of the Academy continue to grow, a Year 9 student, Freya, has become the 2021 West Midland Regional Silver Medallist for 200m breaststroke for under 13s. Another fantastic achievement well done.

Car Parking

A gentle reminder that the yellow zig zag lines outside of the Academy are areas in which parking is not allowed. Traffic wardens have been in the area and I do not want parents to be fined for parking there. Can I also ask you to consider the residents when picking up your child from the Academy and perhaps arrange to meet them away from Allerton Road, for example, by the Man in Space.

Year 11 GCSE results 2021

It was lovely to welcome last year's Year 11 back in August to pick up their results. They have achieved a fabulous set of results and they have progressed onto colleges, apprenticeships and local Sixth Forms. The results once again have reflected the hard work of both staff and students and it's fabulous to see this produce such high-quality results. The track record of GCSE outcomes for students at Trentham over the last 3 years has been extremely rewarding to see. We wish our leavers the best of luck for their future endeavours and hope to see them soon.

Finally

It has been delightful to see our students back, working hard in lessons and seeing them with their friends at social times. We have made a large investment in the fabric of the building once again updating computer rooms, MFL 1, flooring to corridors and new tables and chairs in all standard classrooms. This really does make a difference supporting our students by creating the best environment we can for their experiences. We will also start our extracurricular clubs next week and I ask you to encourage your children to attend as many of them as they can.

My warmest wishes for you and your family for the weekend.

Yours sincerely



Mr M Whittingham
Headteacher



