



Ashton Community Science College

'a school to be proud of'

Headteacher: Miss S Asquith BA Hons, MA, NPQH

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16th September 2019

Dear Parent/Carer and Students

I am delighted to welcome you to another academic year.

We are at the start of our third week back and we have been impressed with the standards of behaviour and appearance of the students; thank you for the part you have played in ensuring this. I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the uniform requirement regarding skirts. School skirts should sit on the knee and certainly be no more than 5cm above the knee. Students should never roll their skirts up at the waist and if this happens they will be told to unroll them to the correct length.

May I also take this opportunity to remind you that students are expected to attend school for 190 days per year, which is the legal number of openings any school must have. There is a wealth of research that links good attainment with good attendance and sanctioning absence of any kind jeopardises this. As a result, I must impress on you that school will continue its policy of not authorising leave in term time and will issue fixed penalty notices in line with the Lancashire Education Authority guidance.

On behalf of the staff and Governors I would like to offer our congratulations to all our students who have recently left school; we wish them every success in their future. Many results for Year 11 exceeded the targets we set for them and also broke the school's record for the highest number of grades 7-9 achieved. The results of all our students are testimony to the hard work of the students themselves, the staff and you, the parents, who together have put an incredible amount of hard work and effort into the outcomes that were achieved.

We welcome a number of new staff into our school family this year:

Mrs Parker - Associate Assistant Headteacher SENDCO
Miss Evans - Maths
Mr Thatcher - PE
Mrs Thomson - SERF
Mrs Beenham - SERF
Mrs Taylor - SERF
Miss Perna - French
Miss Brichory - French
Miss Corsby - 2nd in Science
Mrs Price - Science

We also offer our congratulations to Mrs Joassard, and celebrate the safe arrival of her baby daughter. Mrs Joassard will return from her maternity leave later in the academic year.



Our annual school Open Evening takes place this year on Wednesday 2nd October, starting at 6 pm. In previous years, we have closed early to allow staff and students who are involved to get things ready during the afternoon. Therefore, I intend to **close the school at 12.55 pm on Wednesday 2nd October** so that this preparatory work can take place. I hope that you understand and support this decision. Hot food will be available for all students at break time and those wishing to purchase a packed lunch to take home can do so.

On Thursday 26th September we will be holding our Year 11 information evening, which all Year 11 students and their parents are encouraged to attend. This final year of their school career is crucial for students since it mark the end of the GCSE journey and we use this evening to prepare them and their parents for the demands of the forthcoming months.

Within school students have access to a confidential counselling service which can be accessed on a self-referral basis. If you would prefer your child not to have the opportunity to self-refer, please could you return the reply slip attached.

May I draw your attention to the Privacy Notice a copy of which has been placed on the School's website. This explains the school's use of the personal data that we hold on our students and to whom we may need to share that information with. If you do not wish the school to pass on the data to the Youth Support Service (the government's information and advice service for all young people age 13 to 18 - formerly known as the Careers Service), please will you confirm your wishes to me in writing.

Finally, I have included a reminder of the term dates for this academic year. The term dates for the following academic year, 2020/21, will be published once they have been agreed by the Governors in mid-October. These dates are also available on the school's website. On the matter of term dates, you may be aware that the date of the bank holiday next May has changed from Monday 4th May to Friday 8th May. This is a national change for 2020 only and our school calendar has been amended accordingly.

Thank you again for your continued support and I look forward to seeing you in person at one of our many school events.

Yours sincerely



Miss S Asquith
Headteacher

School Term and Holiday Patterns 2019-2020

****please note for 2020 May Day Bank Holiday has date has changed nationally from Monday 4th May to Friday 8th May ****

AUTUMN TERM 2019	
INSET Day – Closed to Students	Monday 2 nd September 2019
School Re-opens (All Students)	Tuesday 3 rd September 2019
INSET Day – Closed to Students	Friday 4 th October 2019
Half Term - Monday 21st October to Friday 25th October 2019	
School Re-opens	Monday 28 th October 2019
INSET Day – School closed	Friday 29 th November 2019
INSET Day – School closed	Monday 2 nd December 2019
Christmas Holidays - Monday 23rd December to Friday 3rd January 2020	

SPRING TERM 2020	
School Re-opens	Monday 6 th January 2020
Half Term - Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February 2020	
School Re-opens	Monday 24 th February 2020
Easter Holidays - Monday 6th April to Friday 17th April 2020	

SUMMER TERM 2020	
School Re-opens	Monday 20 th April 2020
May Day – School Closed	Friday 8 th May 2020
Half Term - Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May 2020	
School Re-opens	Monday 1 st June 2020
Close for Summer	Friday 17 th July 2020

Please note that any holiday requested during term time will not be authorised by school and will therefore be deemed to be an unauthorised absence. Fixed penalty notices may be issued by the Local Authority to both parents in the event of an unauthorised absence.

School Counsellor - Self Referral

Return to:

Miss Parkinson, Designated Senior Leader Safeguarding

Name of Student: _____

Form: _____

I DO NOT wish my son/daughter to self-refer to the
Counselling service

Signature of Parent/ Carer: _____

Date: _____