

Dear Parents/Carers.

**Re: Welcome back!**

Firstly, I hope you are all having a good and restful summer break. I look forward to welcoming all of our students back for the new term next week. A particular welcome goes to any new students joining us in year 7 and 12, I hope you come to love this academy as much as I do.

**Start of term arrangements:**

- Year 7, 11 and 12 students return to school on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September.
- Years 8, 9 and 10 return on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September
- Year 13 return on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September.

All students need to be in lessons by 8:45 so should be on site for 8:40 to allow them to be on time for the start of the day. Edge time at the start of the day is a really important part of setting them up for the day so your support in this is appreciated. The other term dates for next year are on our website.

We will be making check in phone calls to specific students on Tuesday and Wednesday in preparation for them coming back the day after - this is a purely supportive phone call so any issues to a student returning, please discuss them then. If you aren't contacted but need support, then please contact your year group AAHT.

Just a reminder to our parents of year 10, these students now need to be wearing a white shirt and a red tie that was handed out on the last assembly they had. If you haven't got one because of absence they will need to wear a white shirt and the blue tie, and we will change it on the first day back. The first tie is free as we exchange it for the blue one, any further purchases of a red tie will need to be paid for.

**Events next half term that you need to be aware of are:**

- Open Evening 4 – 6pm Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September
- SEND coffee morning Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October
- Year 7 welcome evening Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October

This year we are changing the day to be as follows:

8:45 - 9:15	Edge
9:15 - 10:15	P1
10:15 - 11:15	P2
11:15 - 11:35	break
11:35 - 12:35	P3
12:35 - 1:35	P4
1:35 - 2:10	lunch
2:10 - 3:10	P5
3:15 - 4:15	after school clubs P6

This means all students will have lunch at the same time, this is so we can extend lunch slightly to allow clubs to take place at lunch time. If your child wants to take part in a club, can you support us by encouraging them to purchase lunch at break time, so they have enough time to enjoy the club they want to attend.

We are also changing our parent app to Arbor, this should mean that accessing your child's information will be easier to do. Details of this will either have already come to you or be coming out over the summer, please can you make sure that you have logged into this as it will be our main point of contact with you moving forward. Support details for this can be found on the link below

[Parent Portal and App for parents – Arbor Help Centre \(arbor-education.com\)](https://arbor-education.com)

**Our priorities for this year as an academy are:**

1. Improve Attendance in all year groups.
2. Implementation of Teaching and Learning that allows students to become more independent learners.
3. Digital by Design implementation and embedding in all year groups
4. Reduce repeat suspensions through early intervention groups
5. Improve Outcomes for KS4 and 5
6. Improve Enrichment Offer to enhance curriculum in all year groups.

Further information will come out to you across the year about how we are working on those, and in advance I thank you for your support with this.

Finally, Tuesday I will still have an open afternoon from 2 – 4pm, where you can drop in and talk to me without an appointment. I am also available on my email, which is [sarah.murcott@fortis.set.org](mailto:sarah.murcott@fortis.set.org). and I will happily respond.

I look forward to working with you all across the new year.

Yours Faithfully,



**Sarah Murcott**  
**Executive Headteacher**