

**Littleport and East Cambridgeshire Academy**

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***‘BELIEVING IN A GROWTH MINDSET’***

**Parent Handbook**

**2020/2021**

Welcome

Welcome to the Littleport and East Cambridgeshire Academy Parent Handbook.

This handbook has been produced to help you understand our policies and procedures and to give you all the relevant information you require. We are committed to working in close partnership with parents and carers to ensure that our students, your children, are fully supported and happy at the Academy.

Our students benefit from a highly qualified, hard-working and committed team who recognise that `ensure we meet the needs of all our students. School should be a rewarding, enriching experience and we aim to offer your child a wide range of opportunities both inside the classroom and beyond it.

At LECA we firmly believe in a growth mindset, not a fixed one. That means every day we will be instilling a ‘never give up’ mentality based on the idea that failure is just a stepping stone in the road to success. We also believe that every child has their place in the world and that our job is to facilitate them finding it and being successful within it.

We are very lucky to be in the heart of a fantastic village and a fantastic campus. The facilities in the Academy, Special School and Leisure Centre are not only new but state-of-the-art and the students of 2017 onwards can enjoy and benefit from them 7 days a week, all year round. We will always encourage students to make the most of every opportunity we will offer.

Thank you for choosing Littleport and East Cambridgeshire Academy for your child’s education and I very much look forward to working with you.



Scott Gaskins

Principal

Littleport and East Cambs Academy

Core Aims

Littleport and East Cambs Academy staff, in partnership with parents and carers, aims to:

* Provide students of all ages and abilities with a secure, well-ordered environment in which to foster their academic, physical, social and spiritual development.
* Promote the development of their abilities, through a broad, balanced and deep curriculum.
* Create a caring community in which each child is valued as an individual and becomes prepared to make a positive contribution to adult life.
* Ensure all students are offered equal opportunities to develop their potential throughout the Academy.
* Develop initiative, responsibility and sensitivity to the needs of others and the ability to achieve sound personal relationships.

To achieve these targets for students, the Head and Governing Body of the Academy identify the welfare and development of all members of the Academy as a priority

Our Vision

To deliver the highest quality learning opportunities to every student ensuring that every member of our Academy can make outstanding progress and positively contribute to the modern world.

Contacting LECA

If you need to contact the Academy concerning your child, the first point of contact is the form tutor.

**My Child’s Form Tutor is**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please be aware that during the day most staff will be teaching but will contact you as soon as possible. This may be at breaks or after school and will be within 48 hours. We have compiled a list of people you are most likely to want to speak to. If you are unsure, please contact Reception and they will advise you who the best person to help you is.

General questions should be directed to the Reception. The receptionist will be able to assist you in directing your questions to the relevant person.

* Information concerning your child’s general well-being should be directed to your child’s form tutor who will pass it on to the relevant personnel as necessary.
* If you are telephoning the Academy to inform us that your child has forgotten their lunch/PE kit or if you need to get an urgent message to them, please contact Reception.
* If you are enquiring about an educational visit that has been planned or you wish to speak to your child’s teacher about their academic progress, please contact the Reception who will redirect your call as necessary.
* If you wish to write to a member of staff at the Academy please indicate clearly who you wish to be the recipient of your letter and address it to:

Littleport and East Cambs Academy

Camel Road

Littleport

Cambridgeshire

CB6 1EW

Alternatively, all staff contacts are available on our website along with a whole host of other very useful information.

Email: office@lecacademy.org

Website: [www.lecacademy.org](http://www.lecacademy.org)

The Governing Body

The Governing Body has responsibility for the overall effective management of the Academy. It acts within the framework of national legislation and policies set out by the Local Authority. They do not make day to day decisions on the running of the Academy as this is the responsibility of the Head of School. They meet regularly through the term to discuss all main aspects of Academy life. Their aim is to maintain and improve the standards at LECA and to ensure the Academy is teaching a broad and balanced curriculum in line with national standards.

The Governing Body’s work can be divided into three key areas:

* Setting the Academy’s vision and strategic aims, agreeing plans and policies, and making creative use of resources.
* Monitoring and evaluating performance and to support and challenge the Principal in managing the Academy.
* Ensuring that the Academy is accountable to the children and parents/carers it serves, to its local community, to those who fund and maintain it, as well as to the staff it employs.

Reverend Howard Robson Chair & Safeguarding

David Ambrose-Smith Health & Safety

Lesley Dorrington Attendance

Graeme Wigglesworth Parent

Simon Bainbridge Executive Principal - HLA

Scott Gaskins Principal - LECA

Yvonne Skillern Head of School - HLA

Child Protection

**Under the Education Act 2002 (section 175/157), schools must make arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. We will endeavour to provide a safe and welcoming environment where children are respected and valued.**

The school will therefore be alert to signs of abuse and neglect and will follow the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) procedures to ensure that children receive appropriate and effective support and protection.

Parents/carers should know that the law requires all school staff to pass on information which gives rise to a concern about a child’s welfare, including risk from neglect, physical, emotional or sexual abuse.

The school should make parents/carers aware that records of welfare concerns may be kept about their child. They should be informed that school staff will seek, in general, to discuss any concerns with them including referrals to other agencies. However, in situations where the child is suspected to be at risk of harm, the law says that schools may take advice from other agencies without informing parents/carers.

In accordance with local Information Sharing protocols, we will ensure that information is shared securely and sensitively. Information will only be shared with other services where it is deemed necessary and proportionate to ensure that children and young people are safe and receive the right service.

Schools will seek advice from Social Care when they have reasonable cause to suspect a child may be suffering or likely to suffer significant harm. Occasionally, concerns are passed on which are later shown to be unfounded. Parents/carers will appreciate that the member of staff in the school with responsibility for child protection (known as the Designated Person for Child Protection) was carrying out their responsibilities in accordance with the law and acting in the best interests of all children.

Under section 3 (5) of the Children Act 1989, schools or any person who has care of a child “may...do what is reasonable in all the circumstances of the case for the purpose of safeguarding or promoting the child’s welfare”. This means that on rare occasions, a school may need to “hold” a child in school whilst Social Care and the police investigate any concerns further.

\* The word “school” is used throughout but this would include all educational settings e.g. Academies, Pupil Referral Units, Further Education establishments and Independent schools.

Mental Health

At LECA we firmly believe that the **Mental Health** and **Well Being** of our students and staff is the business of everybody with all members of our school community, including governors, students, parents, teaching, admin and support staff having a crucial role to play in its promotion and perception.

To date, as a community we have worked hard to:

* Create a **Mental Health Strategy**
* Appoint a **Mental Health** and **Well Being** **lead** who works collaboratively with the pastoral and safeguarding team to ensure all students are closely monitored and identification and intervention is responsive.
* Create a team of **Mental Health Champions** to respond to the needs of our community and share good practice.
* Ensure **Mental Health** is at the forefront of our 'everyday diet' at LECA, both in and out of the classroom.
* Raise awareness of **Mental Health**, through assemblies, PSHE days, group work, staff training, parent information sessions, newsletters and articles.
* Provide excellent **Mental Health** support from our dedicated pastoral team; providing 1 to 1 sessions and evidence based group interventions.
* Employed a Family Liaison Worker and a Young Peoples Worker to further support the needs of our young people and families in our community.
* Linking our Student Leadership Programme to the promotion of **Mental Health** with specialist **Mental Health Ambassadors**.
* Develop a **Well Being** programme for staff.
* Work with other agencies, professionals and forums including Talking freEly and Rachel Ewan - **Mental Health and Well Being Training**.
* Working closely with a trust wide approach to **Mental Health.**
* Working collaboratively with YMCA to develop our own LECA Blueprint.

This action plan that we have in place is a fluid document that will constantly be assessed, monitored and developed to further embed and extend our offer to ensure that the **Mental Health** and **Well Being** of the school community remains the highest priority.

Queries

At some point in your child’s education you may feel the need to raise issues and concerns at the Academy. We would ask that you follow the processes detailed below in order for us to identify who is the most appropriate person to deal with your queries. If necessary, your query will escalate to the next level if your concerns are unable to be resolved.

* For subject specific queries, contact the subject teacher via Reception or by email (see pages 4 and 5).
* For pastoral queries / issues, contact your child’s form tutor.

If necessary, or if your concerns are unresolved, your query will escalate to the next level and will be dealt with by the Head of School, Executive Principal and / or the Governing Body.

Communication with Parents and Carers

The Academy places great importance on effective communication with parents and carers. We encourage you to contact us with any problems you may have and we will keep you informed of events and information at the Academy. We will always deal with all queries within 48 hours.

The Academy staff will use various methods of communicating with parents/carers. Here are just a few examples:

* Letters given to students at tutor time
* Website & Academy Blog
* Ongoing Parental Consultations
* Parents’ Forum
* Schoolcomms (School Gateway)
* GO4Schools
* Email/Phone
* Social Media (Instagram/Facebook/Twitter @LECAcademy)

Social events, concerts, school plays, performance and presentation evenings will be advertised individually in the wider community with posters, newsletters and via the website.

Phone calls will be made to parents/carers to confirm all communications received regarding students signing out or being collected from the Academy during the school day.

The Academy Day

The Academy day is shown below. Enrichment is a period of 30 minutes before school where students may be invited to attend so we can help them with extra Maths or English. After school, Clubs and Enrichment run for an hour until 4.10pm. It is expected that all students take part in at least one extra-curricular activity per week in order to improve their attainment levels, learn new skills and broaden their social groups.

**LECA School Day**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Enrichment | 8.00am – 8.30am |
| Registration / Assembly | 8.30am – 8.50am |
| Period 1 | 8.50am – 9.50am |
| Period 2 | 9.50am – 10.50am |
| **BREAK** | **10.50am – 11.10am** |
| Period 3 | 11.10am – 12.10pm |
| Period 4 | 12.10pm – 1.10pm |
| **LUNCH** | **1.10pm – 2.00pm** |
| Period 5 | 2.00pm – 3.00pm |
|  |  |
| Clubs/Enrichment/Intervention | 3.10pm – 4.10pm |

Academy Expectations

We will provide your child with a high quality education and facilities that are state-of-the-art, safe and secure. We will treat students with courtesy and respect at all times.

We expect that whenever your child is in the Academy, they behave sensibly and appropriately and always show courtesy and consideration to other members of our community.

For lessons and tutor time, we expect your child to:

* Arrive on time.
* Do their best and never give up.
* Bring all necessary equipment in suitable bags e.g. pen, green biro, pencil, ruler, eraser, calculator, PE kit, planner.
* Listen to the person who is talking, no matter who they are.
* Always follow instructions.
* Respect all property and never graffiti books, furniture or buildings.
* Work sensibly without disturbing classmates.
* Adhere to classroom rules and behaviour expectations.
* Respect other people’s point of view, even if they disagree with them.

Around the Academy site, we expect your child to:

* Move around the Academy in a quiet and respectful manner
* Keep to the left on corridors and stairs
* Always consider others in busy areas
* Hold doors open for each other and staff
* Stay in the designated areas at break and lunch
* Only eat in designated areas
* Put litter in bins
* Never shout or swear
* Follow staff instructions, without question, at all times
* Wear the full Academy uniform at all times

All students will be issued with a Student Code of Conduct Booklet when they start at the Academy. The booklet is designed so that students understand how we expect them to conduct themselves during the school day. Details can be found here:

<https://www.lecacademy.org/students/curriculum/student-conduct>

Healthy Eating and School Meals

At Littleport and East Cambs Academy we have worked extremely hard with our catering providers to deliver a balanced selection of healthy drinks, snacks and main meals for our students throughout the day. We believe that break and lunch are important times for both students and staff to relax, talk and refresh themselves before continuing the school day.

In line with many other schools, we respectfully request that students bring water bottles to school and these are filled with *water only.*

Fizzy drinks / energy drinks are strictly forbidden and will be confiscated if brought on site. Packets of sweets (apart from cough / throat lozenges) and chewing gum are also forbidden on site. These will also be confiscated. We ask that you discourage your child from purchasing sweets or energy drinks on the way to school as these are proven to have an adverse effect on concentration levels, behaviour and progress.

Students may purchase food and drink at breaks and lunchtime to eat in the designated areas and can pay using the Cashless Catering system. Some students may wish to bring a packed lunch and supervised areas are provided. We ask that packed lunches are nutritionally balanced.

Biometrics and Cashless Catering

LECA operates a Cashless Catering system for the purchase of food and drinks. This system is able to recognise each individual student, hold individual account balances and total what money has been spent on what food, on any specific day.

The system the Academy operates employs biometric, fingertip recognition software to identify the individual users. We scan two fingers of each student to obtain an image of the fingertip. These images are then used to create a mathematical algorithm, a series of numbers, which can be used to uniquely identify that user. The system uses an image of the fingertip to create the algorithm and then discards the image; only the numbers remain and these cannot be reinterpreted back into a fingerprint image. (The data is held on the system until the student leaves school Academy). GDPR compliant, as the information we use is not shared and only for this purpose.

Healthy Eating and School Meals

Money can be credited to a student’s cashless catering account:

Over the Internet via ParentPay. A link to the ParentPay site is provided on the Academy website. This is the best way to credit money to a student’s account as it ensures that money intended to be spent on school dinners is actually spent in the canteen.

Students are able to check the balance of their account whenever they buy an item from the canteen. Parents who use ParentPay will be able to check the balance of their child’s account and see what food they have purchased through the ParentPay website. We have set a limit on the amount of money that students can spend to £4.00 per day. This will cover food bought before school, at break and at lunchtime. Parents who would like a higher or lower limit set can request this by contacting Reception.

Free School Meals

Those students entitled to free school meals will have the amount allocated for the free school meal automatically entered into the system daily. This allocation will only be available at lunchtime.

Parents of children receiving free school meals can also add funds to their account using ParentPay. Extra funds can be used to pay for drinks or snacks at break time or to supplement their spending at lunch.

For school trips, parents of students who receive free school meals may request a packed lunch to be provided. Details of how to do this will be detailed on letters and emails regarding each specific trip.

Attendance

Full attendance maximises learning opportunities and research suggests that just **17 days’ absence in any one year = 1 GCSE grade drop in achievement.**

The Academy places great importance in excellent attendance and punctuality as this contributes to your child’s success at the Academy.

Our Academy attendance target of **97%** is the minimum that we expect for all students. To achieve this attendance level, a student should have no more than **7½** days absence in an entire academic year. If a student’s attendance falls to **90%** this is the equivalent of missing half a day every single week; **85%** is equivalent to a student missing around 6 weeks in an academic year.

We would appreciate the full support of parents and carers in ensuring that their child attends whenever possible. This means only keeping your child off school when it is unavoidable and helps them to develop good habits for the world of work.

For example:

* Illness – only keep your child at home for genuine illnesses. If you’re not sure, send them to school with a note and school can contact you if there’s a problem.
* Medical/dental appointments – make routine appointments out of school time. If this is not possible, please notify us in advance and ensure that your child attends school both before and after the appointment as appropriate.
* Family Holidays – please arrange holidays during the school holidays, not during term time. Cambridgeshire County Council may issue fixed penalty notices to parents if they remove their child from school for 3 consecutive school days or more.

Absence for any other reasons will be dealt with individually. Please contact Reception for more information.

We monitor students’ attendance and punctuality very closely and will follow up any unexplained absences with parents/carers. Where a student’s attendance record causes concern, we will contact you to discuss ways in which the Academy can support you and your child.

If your child is too ill to attend the Academy, you should contact the Reception by 9.00am on the day of absence. We ask that you contact us each day your child is absent, unless you have already given us an indication of how long the absence will last.

Absence Call/Email

We take our safeguarding responsibility seriously. If the Academy has not received notification of absence by 9.00am, a call is made to parents/carers to ascertain why.

Notification of absence is to be made on a daily basis, even when your child has been absent due to illness on previous days. We cannot assume that your child is still ill unless you have notified us. We would not wish to put your child at risk by failing to contact you.

Details of our attendance policy can be found: www.lecacademy.org/policies

Leave of Absence

Taking time off for holidays interferes with students’ learning and progress. In addition, students’ exam results may be affected; they may miss important exams or assessments.

No leave of absence for holidays will be granted during term time. Absence taken without authorisation will lead to your child having unauthorised absences and may lead to a prosecution under the Education act 1996 or a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued by the Local Authority. Penalty Notices are issued under the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2006 and are £60 per parent per child if paid within 28 days.

Current and future term dates can be found on the website: <https://www.lecacademy.org/parents/term-dates>

The Mastery Curriculum

The curriculum at LECA has been developed so students can master the key skills and knowledge they will need to be successful in their GCSE courses. Each subject measures the level of mastery students have achieved by using low stakes tests, homework and two key assessment points a year.

In Year 10 and 11, we switch to standard GCSE levels using the national standard 1-9 to reflect the current GCSE grading system. If students make expected progress they should finish their education at LECA with at least level 4 in most subjects. Currently, this is equivalent to a C grade at GCSE.

Homework

Part of the mastery curriculum is the simple but highly effective method of using homework to embed key learning: Mastery Tests. The process is as follows:

1. The teacher sets a test as homework, with the answers. These tests are typically   
   15-20 questions long and may include key terms / concepts, definitions, formulas and any other vital information they will need in their lessons.
2. Students take the test home and learn the answers to the test questions.
3. On the homework due date, the teacher tests the students in class and they mark they answers.
4. Teachers record their marks on Go4Schools.

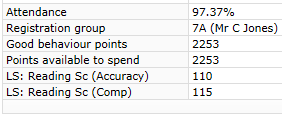
Mastery tests mean that all homework is useful and aids progress in every lesson. It is also an opportunity for parents to help their child with homework without it being arduous or time-consuming.

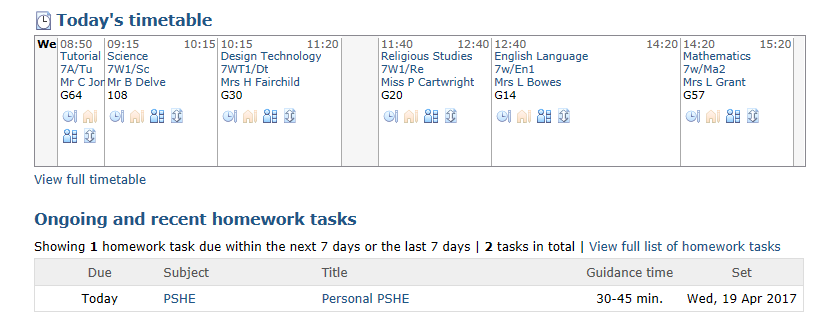
Homework is uploaded to Go4Schools by the teaching team. Chronological lists of homework that is due can be found on your child’s personal Go4Schools page.

We also use SAM Learning. This is a unique online service that offers multiple subjects. Students are able to access the service and tasks assigned to them at anytime and anywhere, all they need to do is visit the website and enter their unique login details, which every student will be given.

Go4Schools

Go4Schools is our online progress, behaviour and attendance system. It is a ‘live’ website where data and information is shared with parents in real-time. Using a secure login, parents can see vital information about their child 24/7. Some snapshots of the type of information parents can see are below:

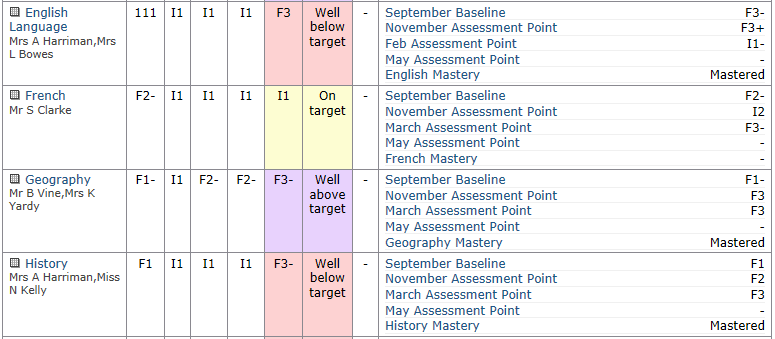


This details attendance, the tutor group and the good behaviour points this student has accrued.

This shows the student’s timetable for the day and the most recent piece of homework.

Go4Schools (continued)

The above shows the five most recent behaviour choices. Each choice can be clicked for more information, including comments from the teacher.



This gives parents detailed information on how their child is doing and clearly tells them whether they are above, on or below target.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Here at Littleport and East Cambs Academy, we aim to provide a wealth of opportunities during the working day, before it and after it. These include sporting fixtures, clubs, groups and games.

Opportunities to improve Maths and English skills will be available every day for all students with some students being invited to specific sessions if particular needs are identified.

LECA also has a choir, where we have been lucky enough to perform at the Ely Music Festival as well as within our local community. We welcome all students irrespective of musical ability or background.

A full timetable and extra-curricular activities will be published each term on our website and social media.

**Learning Resource Centre (LRC) Activities may include:**

* Quiet Reading
* Homework
* Card or Board Games
* Creative Writing
* IT based learning using educational software / applications

Music Tuition

We work in partnership with Cambridgeshire Music, Tim Pannell and Cliff Ward to provide high quality music tuition for our students. We have a range of peripatetic teachers who will visit the Academy weekly and offer 20 minute lessons on a rotating timetable so students do not always miss the same lesson each week. Please contact Reception if you would like your child to have music lessons and to discuss the lesson fees and payment options.

Annual Reports

The system the Academy uses for monitoring student progress is called GO4Schools. This provides online reports and assessments all year round that can be accessed 24/7. In order to access GO, you will need to provide us with a current email address so we can provide you with a login. Details of how to do this will be sent to you.

GO4Schools is an electronic version of the teachers register and markbook. All data from tests and assessments as well as behaviour and attendance data is securely stored on GO. When students achieve well in class or show great resilience or effort, the teacher can also give them points. These accumulate over the year and children are rewarded with certificates and vouchers.

The Academy will provide full reports online once a year and parents/carers will be notified when these go ‘live’ and can be accessed as a PDF file. Hard copies are also available on request – please contact Reception.

Rewards and Sanctions

As noted previously, students at LECA are rewarded for their effort, attainment and general good behaviour. Likewise, students who make poor behaviour choices can be issued with negative points. For instance, if a child makes great effort in a lesson they may receive 1 point. However, if they then misbehave in the next lesson, they may receive -1 point. This creates an overall point score for the day, 0. Most students accumulate far more positive points than negative over the year. Currently our ratio of positive to negative points is 92:12 in favour of positive rewards.

Inspired Awards are rewarded on GO4Schools as follows:

**I:** Independent Learner

**N:** Never Give Up

**S:** Solution Focussed

**P:** Progress Driven

**I:** Innovative

**R:** Respectful

**E:** Enthusiastic

**D:** Determined

We also refer to and celebrate children’s achievements in our Annual Awards Evening.

The C System

The C System is a simple system designed to eliminate low-level disruption. An outline of the C System is below.

In The Classroom – The Consequence System

**C1** – Name written on board for off task behaviour such as talking, turning round, not completing work. A single warning may be issued before **C1**.

**C2C** – Name written on board for repeated off task behaviour and the duty teacher is called to speak to the student outside the classroom. This conversation is always based on how much progress they have made and how they are affecting others in the classroom, including the teacher.

**C2R** - This is a removal following the above two steps. The student is removed from the class and placed in another class with work to do.

After school, the class teacher will record the incident on GO4Schools and call home to discuss the removal with the parent or carer.

If a student is repeatedly removed, the next tier of the behaviour system will trigger.

This is called Restorative Intervention and is detailed overleaf.

Restorative Intervention

Restorative Intervention (RI) is an approach which, rather than being strictly punitive, focusses on the behaviour of the student and what strategies can used moving forward to correct this.

Compulsory Intervention Meetings run after school from 3pm - 4pm for students who have acquired 'Patterns of 5' negative points. This is an opportunity for staff to meet the student and discuss the concerns and how these can be addressed.

Should students receive 3 or more Restorative Interventions in a term, Parental Meetings will be triggered to create clear lines of communication between staff, student and parents to improve behaviour and prevent further sanctions being issued.

For extreme incidents such as fighting, criminal activity or serious health and safety breaches, the Academy will investigate each incident on a case by case basis and be guided by the overarching Academy Behaviour Policy and Exclusion Policy.

Uniform and Equipment

Now available from Total Clothing: [**https://www.totalclothingshop.co.uk/leca**](https://www.totalclothingshop.co.uk/leca)

We are proud of our uniform at Littleport and East Cambs Academy and expect all of our students to wear full school uniform every day. Our expectations are below.

We offer one uniform list for boys and girls, however blazers and sports tops are available in girls or boys fit.

**Uniform**

Academy blazer with LECA logo

White shirt /blouse with collar. Short or long sleeves. (Girls may choose a revere collar if they are not wearing a tie)

Navy ‘V’ neck jumper (optional)

Pleated dark grey knee length skirt OR tailored dark grey trousers (not fitted, leggings or jeans/jeggings)

Tailored dark grey shorts may be worn (in warm periods)

Tights – black or flesh coloured OR ankle socks – black or white.

Shoes – plain black leather or synthetic. Flat heels, no logos or markings. Ankle boots (no higher) are acceptable. No trainers. (see ‘other uniform considerations’ for clarification).

Winter coats – sensible outdoor coat that can be worn over the uniform.

Hooded sweatshirts are NOT allowed.

**PE (Clothing must be purchased from our uniform supplier)**

Academy Polo Shirt

Academy Fleece

Choice of Navy Blue Shorts / Skort/Leggings/Training Pants

Navy Blue Football Socks/White Socks

Trainers for indoor use

Football/Rugby Boots

Navy LECA Tracksuit (optional)

Shin Pads (compulsory)

Mouth Guard (compulsory)

Rugby Shirt

**NOTES**

1. For PE, all students are expected to bring full PE kit to lessons irrespective of whether they are taking part. If a student cannot take part in the full lesson, they will be given other tasks to do such as refereeing or assessing peer performances. This is in order to fulfil National Curriculum requirements on officiating, coaching and choreographing.
2. All students will take Football as part of the curriculum. It is compulsory for students to wear shin pads for this activity and it is therefore essential to purchase them.
3. **No perfume or spray deodorant to be brought into school**. Please provide a roll-on alternative if you wish.

Other Uniform Considerations

* Jewellery is not permitted except one pair of studs in earlobes. Other piercings are not permitted.
* Watches may be worn, however Smart Watches must not be activated during the school day and cannot be worn during assessments.
* Discreet cover up make-up is permitted. The Academy will determine whether make-up is discreet and may ask students to remove make-up if it has been heavily applied. Fake eyelashes are also not permitted.
* Nail varnish is not permitted. No gel, acrylic or false nails.
* House Badges should be worn at all times.
* Hair should be of a natural colour and cut in a neat style. Mohawks or other styles deemed ‘extreme’ (including tramlines / patterns / grade 1 or zero) are not permitted.
* Hairspray should not be used as this can be hazardous in labs and workshops
* Outdoor coats should not bear logos or decorations and should not be leather.
* **Shoes** – should be smart synthetic or leather. We **DO NOT** accept canvas shoes, black trainers or leather ‘trainer style’ shoes such as Vans/Converse etc. Shoes should be plain in style, bear NO logos or embellishments. They can be slip-on, Velcro or lace-ups. Ankle boots again must be synthetic or leather. We do not accept ‘Ugg’ style boots or ‘Doc Martins’.

**Please see images below for guidance:**



Equipment

Students should bring the following equipment with them every day:

* Pen, Green Pen, Pencil, Ruler, Eraser, Scientific Calculator – This should be a

**Black** **Casio fx-85GT PLUS.**

* Planner – provided by the Academy
* Any exercise books they have taken home
* Any other equipment requested by class teachers (such as ingredients for cooking)

Mobile Phones and Personal Possessions

The Academy recognises that parents may wish for students to carry a mobile phone for their personal safety when travelling to and from school. During the school day, however, mobile phones must be switched off and out of sight. The Academy reserves the right to confiscate mobile phones if they are seen during the school day and return the device to students at the end of the school day.

High value items should not be brought into the Academy under any circumstances. These might include jewellery, expensive pens, iPods, cameras, smartwatches or large amounts of cash. Such items are not needed during the school day and the Academy will not accept liability, financial or otherwise, for the loss or theft of such items.

If, under exceptional circumstances, valuable items have to be brought into the Academy, they should be handed in to Reception for safekeeping.

Policies

The Academy must have appropriate policies in place to ensure students receive a full and varied education in a safe and secure environment. The policies are reviewed on a regular basis and will appear on the Academy website following ratification by the Governing Body. More details on any current policies will be available on the website.

Frequently Asked Questions

Query **I would like to request time off school for my child.**

Solution Complete an absence request form accompanied by a letter or email for the attention of the Principal (details on our website) explaining the reasons for the request.

Query **I want to take my child out of school for a holiday**.

Solution Please note: holidays in term time are not authorised. Any other request for absence will be dealt with individually. Please complete an absence request form and hand into reception.

Query **My child is ill and will not be attending school.**

Solution Call/Email Reception by 0900hrs and explain the reason why your child will be absent from school that day (this is a mandatory requirement).

Query **I am concerned that my child is being bullied.**

Solution Contact your child’s Form Tutor and explain your concerns to them. They  
may have to refer you to another member of staff if appropriate.

Query **My child is feeling unwell but I have still sent them into school.**

Solution Please email the school office explaining this. If your child deteriorates throughout the day, your child may be referred to First Aid. You will be contacted if it is felt your child needs to be at home. Please ensure we have the correct details to contact someone.

Query **My child has to take medication.**

Solution This should be clearly labelled in the original container with a permission to administer medication form. It should be handed to Reception staff who will store it safely.

Query **I was not contacted in an emergency.**

Solution Ensure that the Academy has the correct details for you and/or someone who we can contact in an emergency. See details of who to contact on the contacts page.

Query **I’ve heard I can receive information on my mobile phone. How does that work?**

Solution Download the Schoolgateway app. It uses parental emails and mobile numbers which are collected at the beginning of each academic year and allows the Academy to send multiple text or voice mail messages, reminding parents of events, meetings or parents’ evenings.

Query **My child lost their planner (Year 7 only).**

Solution Your child should check with their Progress Leader or Student Reception to see if their planner was handed in. If not, contact Reception to arrange a replacement.

Query **My child lost their PE kit and/or coat.**

Solution All items of clothing should be clearly labelled with your child’s name and year group. However, if your child has lost an item, they should go to Reception and check if it has been handed in. Lost property is displayed at the end of each half term for students to check.

Query **The Academy needs to take a photo of my child for work purposes.**

Solution All parents sign a form at the beginning of the year to authorise the taking of photos of their child. Parents can inform us if they wish this permission to be changed, at any time, through Reception.

Query **My child is worried they won’t be able to go to the toilet when they need to.**

Solution Toilets are available throughout the Academy site. Access is primarily at break or lunch times or between lessons, but in an emergency the students can ask teachers to sign planners to allow them out of lesson to use the toilets.

