

HIGH STANDARDS, HIGH ASPIRATIONS, HIGH EXPECTATIONS

1st September 2023

Dear Parent/Carers,

Welcome back.” I appreciate students still have a few days of holiday before they have to make the return to the Academy but I wanted to make sure everyone was clear on the days and timings for their first day back.

INSET Days

Friday 1st September and Monday 4th September are both INSET days for staff training. No students need to attend on either of these days.

New Year 7 Return

Year 7 students will return on Tuesday 5th September. The school day starts at 8:35am promptly each day. Students should aim to be on site by 8:30am at the latest. For this first day only, students will enter into the *Sports Hall* through the fire exits. The Sports Hall is situated further along the front of the building past the Main Doors away from the bike sheds (staff will be on hand to direct so please do not worry). Students will be sorted into their Tutor Groups and collected by their Tutor so there are no worries about getting lost. All you need on Tuesday is yourself, your uniform (or as much of it as you have, do not worry if something hasn't arrived from the suppliers on time etc, we know it happens in the first few days) and your bag with water bottle and pencil case. Students will be with their tutors all day doing a variety of induction activities. No PE kit is required by anyone.

All students will get free lunch on Tuesday whilst we arrange printing of student cards ready for normal service on Wednesday. ParentPay is our cashless catering and payment system and school meals and other items can be purchased via this online system. We should be able to issue activation letters/instructions to your child while they are in school on Tuesday. Can I please ask that you activate your account as soon as possible to enable funds to be uploaded to the school meals option to ensure that your child will be able to purchase lunch. If you currently receive free school meals in Year 6 this should transfer on the system to us.

All Students Return

EVERY student returns full time on Wednesday 6th September 2023 at 8:35am for a normal school day. There will be a short time with Tutors to receive timetables and a bit of induction and then a normal timetable will resume. Please ensure all students have their uniform, school bag and pencil case as well as a bottle of water. No PE kit will be needed on Wednesday whilst students receive their timetables.

Uniform – We know across summer many families will have purchased new uniform. We would be delighted to receive any uniform that is in usable condition and is no longer needed (blazer, skirts, trousers, shifts, ties, jumpers, shoes, PE kit...anything!). We try to maintain a loan stock of uniform (which we wash and clean after every use) for any student who forgets uniform or is in need and donations make this viable. We are currently exploring setting up a second hand uniform sales system and hope to bring you further details over the coming months. If you have anything we would be happy to receive it into Reception on any day between 7:30am and 4pm including tomorrow (Friday) or Monday which are INSET for staff training.



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Likewise, if you are still missing items of uniform for the start of term please do not panic. We ask that every student is in as much uniform as possible for their first day back and we will be sympathetic to any outstanding items and work with families to ensure all students have their full uniform. Please do **not** keep students off of school just because of incomplete uniform.

ParentPay & Free School Meals – a reminder please to top up any ParentPay accounts to ensure students have credit for lunches each day. If your child is eligible for free school meals this will be on their card at the Academy already. If your circumstances have changed and you think you may be eligible for FSM now but weren't previously a reminder you can check and apply online and get an instance decision [on this link](#)

Letters Home - Letters home to parents are always published on the website so please do take a moment to check the Letters section if there is anything you are still unsure of [Letters Home Archive - Bristol Metropolitan Academy \(clf.uk\)](#)

Lockers – over the Summer all locks on our lockers were replaced to ensure we have 100% working lockers and enough for every student. The locks have been changed from combination to key. Whilst we know this puts more responsibility on the student to look after their key it should mean more reliable mechanisms and much simpler issuing meaning students do not have to wait for weeks to be issued a locker. Any student who wants a locker needs to pay a £5 deposit on ParentPay and a key will then be issued in the first two weeks of term. If a replacement key is needed there will be a charge of £5 to cover the cost so please encourage students to look after their locker key.

We look forward to seeing all students across Tuesday and Wednesday for their return. Enjoy the final weekend of summer. We are really looking forward to this academic year.

Yours sincerely

Cameron Shaw
Principal