



17th July 2017

Dear Parents

END OF TERM LETTER

As we draw ever closer to the end of the academic year I would like to update you on a number of positive developments regarding South Nottinghamshire Academy and also highlight our arrangements for next year.

In this letter, you will find information about:

1. End of term / start of term arrangements
2. Summer examination results collection
3. Staffing update
4. New mobile phone policy
5. Internal timings of the school day
6. Uniform expectations

This year has been an incredibly positive year for everyone involved with our great school and on reflection; we have certainly '**pushed our boundaries to achieve more**'.

- In September 2016, we finally moved into our brand new £10 million build. In making the transition, we've been able to maintain what is unique to SNA and incorporated it into our new provision. During the next academic year, I can confirm that we will see the next phase of our building work and our sportshall will be completely refurbished.
- As well as moving into our new school, we also joined the Redhill Academy Trust. They are an outstanding local provider and have a proven track record of enhancing school improvement. Later on in this letter, you will see some of the amendments we are making for September 2017 which we believe will make our provision even stronger.
- In February 2017, we received an Ofsted inspection under the new framework and we were pleased that they judged us to be good across the board (Leadership & Management / Teaching / Personal Development, Behaviour and Welfare / Outcomes / and 16-19 study programmes). What was particularly pleasing was the level of support we received from our parent community which we are always appreciative of.

1. End of term / start of term arrangements

Summer term 2017: Academy closes to all students on Tuesday 25th July 2017 at 12.30pm.

For those students that catch a school bus, the buses have been arranged for this earlier time and will drop off as normal.

Autumn term 2017: Academy re-opens to all students on Thursday 7th September 2017 (8.25am start)

Wednesday 6th September will be our standard administration day and only Year 12 students are required to attend at 8.30am to complete their registration.



2. Summer examination results collection

Students will be able to collect their examination results from reception at the new school building on the following dates:

- A Level results day – Thursday 17th August 2017 from 9am – 2pm
- GCSE results day – Thursday 24th August 2017 from 9am – 2pm

3. Staffing update

As we draw to the end of the academic year, we will unfortunately be saying goodbye to some members of staff. In terms of teaching staff, Mr Entwisle (Assistant Headteacher), Mr Skinner (Science), Mrs Fairclough (Science), Mr Halstead (Maths) and Mr Sharkey (Sociology / Psychology) are all leaving us for pastures new. Ms Smith (Inclusion Officer) and Mrs Shaw (Data / EVC) are both also leaving to commence teacher and counsellor training respectively. I am sure that you will join me in thanking members of staff for all their contributions to our school and in wishing them all the very best for the future.

I am delighted to say that in all of these cases, we have managed to appoint specialist, high quality staff and our priority will be to ensure that this does not cause disruption to any classes. Members of staff who will be joining SNA in September 2017 are:

- Mr Timson (Chemistry)
- Ms Haith (Biology)
- Miss Swinscoe (Maths)
- Mr Swanwick (Chemistry)
- Mrs Hall (Head of Design & Technology)
- Mr Richardson (Humanities)
- Mrs Sharp (Assistant Head Teacher)
- Mr Melfi (Head of ICT / Business)
- Mr Errington (Psychology / Sociology)

In addition, we have appointed Miss Grantham (English/Drama) and Miss Guarasci (Food Technology) who have worked with us this year and we are delighted to welcome back Mrs Schmidt (Maths 2nd in Department) after her maternity leave.

Joining the support staff will be Mrs Pasquill (Data / EVC), Mrs Jackson (Learning Resource Assistant) and we are currently recruiting for an Inclusion Officer.

Finally, you will have already received information from us about the development of Vertical Tutoring and the House System. In September 2017, our Heads of House are:

- Aquitaine: Mr Lowman
- Maine: Mrs Hawksworth and Ms Proctor
- Rollo: Mr MacLaughlin

As many of you will be aware, the proposed National Funding Formula and the funding of all schools is a hot topic but we are in the fortunate position that unlike most schools, we have been able to add to our staffing complement; increase the breadth of our curriculum (RE and Design & Technology); and continue with the development of our build programme.

4. New mobile phone policy

During the remainder of this academic year, we will be discussing with our current students about the changes to the use of mobile phones within the Academy. Whilst we understand that the majority of our students do have a mobile phone, from September 2017, they will not be allowed to be used during the school day (including at break and lunch times). In the case of an emergency, students will be able to speak to members of staff for permission to use them but if they are seen at any other time, they will be confiscated.

If this scenario reoccurs, more serious sanctions will be applied. For some students, it may be worth considering purchasing a watch to tell the time or referring to clocks around the school.

As parents, we all want our children to be well rounded, articulate, sociable individuals but we believe that this is being negatively affected by the increasing usage and reliance on mobile phones and/or headphones.

5. Internal timings of the school day

As we continue to grow, it has enabled us to refine some of our practice. We will move from 6 x 50 minute lessons to 5 x 60 minute lessons as we believe it enhances students learning and provides greater scope for progression. With this, the timings of the internal school day will change with lessons starting at 8.25am and tutor time moving to 10.25am. This means that all students will be expected to arrive promptly at 8.25am ready for their first lesson of the day - there will be no excuses for those that are late. The Academy day will continue to finish at 2.50pm with lots of clubs and opportunities available after school.

6. Uniform expectations

As many parents and carers purchase new shoes or uniform during the summer months, can I please draw your attention to the enclosed 'Academy uniform expectations' document. Please be aware that some retailers sell uniform items that we deem 'fashion' items and will not be accepted. In September and throughout the year, we will insist on these high standards and students who are not in correct uniform will be supervised for their lessons by members of the senior and extended leadership team.

If there are genuine issues with ensuring that students are wearing the correct uniform then please do not hesitate to contact the Academy via telephone, email or the school planner.

Finally, can I thank you for your ongoing support of our great school and I hope that together, we can reach even greater heights next year.

I hope that you all have a wonderful summer break.

Yours sincerely



Mr D Philpotts
Headteacher

ACADEMY UNIFORM EXPECTATIONS

Boys (Year 7-11)

Academy Blazer - Academy regulation black blazer, with badge.

Academy Tie - Academy regulation tie (with House colour).

Trousers - plain black, formal, long trousers. A plain black belt can be worn.

Shirt - formal white shirt with stiff collar. This must be tucked in.

Jumper (optional item) - Academy black V-neck jumper with House colour trim. This can be worn in addition to the blazer, but is not to replace it.

Shoes - plain black formal shoes (no trainers, boots, sandals or logos). See over for further information. **Socks** - black.

Coat (optional item) - A plain coat may be worn outdoors in addition to the blazer. We do not consider sports tops, 'hoodies', or other fashion items to be coats.

Girls (Year 7-11)

Academy Blazer - Academy regulation black blazer, with badge.

Academy Tie - Academy regulation tie (with House colour).

Skirt or Trousers - plain black knee-length skirt without splits or decoration OR plain black, formal, long trousers. A plain black belt can be worn.

Shirt - formal white shirt with stiff collar. This must be tucked in.

Jumper (optional item) - Academy black V-neck jumper with House colour trim. This can be worn in addition to the blazer, but is not to replace it.

Shoes - plain black formal shoes (no trainers, boots, slingbacks, sandals, logos). See below for further information.

Socks / Tights - black

Coat (optional item) - A plain coat may be worn outdoors in addition to the blazer. We do not consider sports tops, 'hoodies', or other fashion items to be coats.

Further information

At times of extreme heat, students may request removal of their blazers - this is at the discretion of the class teacher.

Students should not wear coloured or lettered undergarments which may be visible through their shirt.

The wearing of baseball caps and 'hoodies' is not acceptable. These will be confiscated.

Black 'trainer type shoes' manufactured by sports companies will not be accepted as school shoes. In addition, shoes which tie up need to have black laces.

Outdoor coats cannot be worn in the classroom

The Academy will be the final arbiter on what is deemed to be acceptable as school uniform

Hair Styles - Exaggerated styles/colours are not permitted.

Jewellery - You should refrain from wearing jewellery to school. Watches and ear studs are allowed (but only one per ear lobe). Additional piercings are not allowed.

Make Up - Nail varnish or artificial nails are not permitted or excessive make up.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION KIT

Key Stage 3 (Years 7-9) - South Nottinghamshire Academy polo shirt; Plain blue shorts; Plain blue / white football socks; Plain blue / black tracksuit bottoms (optional); South Nottinghamshire Academy sweaters and tracksuit bottoms (optional); Trainers (not 'pumps').

Key Stage 4 (Years 10-11) - Key Stage 3 PE kit is encouraged to be worn if appropriate. If not; Plain white / blue polo shirts (collared); Plain blue / black tracksuit bottoms (optional)

Any clothing with large logos displayed are not acceptable for PE lessons

Academy uniform garments are not PE kit.

Sportswear can be worn underneath PE shirts (not on top)

