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**NEWARK**  
ACADEMY

23rd July 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope my final email of this academic year finds both you and your families well.

### **Thank you**

I would like to start with a huge thank you to all our parents / carers for their support this year. The success of our Academy and its young people is built upon a strong partnership between home and school and I am extremely grateful to those parents/carers who have always supported the work we do and the ambitions we have for our children.

I would also like to recognise the hard work and efforts of our students this year. They have embraced the challenges they have faced with resilience and excellence and have embodied the school mantra of 'work hard, be kind'. It has been an absolute pleasure to get to know them and spend time with them.

### **Staffing Updates**

The best resource of any organisation is its staff and at Newark Academy we are incredibly lucky to have such a committed and inspirational team of people, in teaching and non-teaching roles, who always go above and beyond for students and colleagues. This week, we will be saying goodbye to two colleagues who together have given the school 25 years of service and have therefore been a key part of the journey Newark Academy has been on.

**Mr Brown** – Deputy Head Teacher. Mr Brown will be leaving us at the end of the year, taking on a new senior leadership post at Toot Hill School. Mr Brown has worked at Newark Academy for 15 years and has been an excellent support to me personally as Head Teacher. I cannot thank him enough for his continued commitment and dedication to our students.

**Mrs Goodman** – Lead Behaviour Support Co-ordinator. Mrs Goodman has been with us for 10 years and has always worked with those students who need additional support to fully access their education. Her passion and continued commitment to our whole school community is inspiring.

We have several other colleagues leaving us at the end of the year to seek new challenges. We want to therefore thank **Mrs Williams, Mrs Porter, Miss Mortiboy, Mr Watt, Mr Robinson** and **Mrs Page** for all their hard work and the positive impact they have had on our students, supporting them to realise their future ambitions.

I am sure our families will join me in wishing all these staff the very best of luck in the next chapters of their own journeys. Next term we will welcome and introduce our new staff who are excited to be joining us and working with your children.

## **Uniform Expectations**

We are exceptionally proud to see how the vast majority of our students always come prepared with the right equipment and uniform and we would like to thank you in advance for continuing to support these standards and expectations from the very start of next term.

Therefore, in preparation of a positive start to the new academic year, please see below a polite reminder of some of these expectations. **Our full uniform policy is available on our [website](#). Please check the website for more detailed information.**

Students must:

- Wear a school tie
- Wear school appropriate black shoes
- Bring a rucksack (handbags are NOT allowed)
- Bring a filled pencil-case with 2 pens, 2 pencils, a ruler, pencil sharpener and rubber.
- Have school appropriate hair styles and colours (please check policy for further details)

Students must **NOT**:

- Wear false eyelashes
- Wear false nails
- Wear excessive make up
- Wear jewellery other than a pair of small stud earrings in the lower lobe of the ear.
- Wear any facial piercings. If a student has a piercing in the nose, they will be expected to remove and wear a small plastic retainer.

Please be advised that, from the start of the new academic year, the behaviour policy will be implemented to address any issues as they arise. These reminders are therefore designed to ensure that all students make a fantastic start to the new term and that learning time is maximised. This then avoids any unnecessary conversations about uniform which take time away from learning.

Finally, a reminder that if families require financial support with school uniform please do get in touch with us ([office@newarkacademy.co.uk](mailto:office@newarkacademy.co.uk))

## **Lockers**

All lockers will be cleared over the summer holiday. Therefore, any children who currently have lockers need to remove all items from them by Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> July, when the academic year ends. They must also take their lock with them.

## **End of Term Plans**

### Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July

We are very pleased to be able to offer our students a day of exciting activities on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July. On this day Key Stage three students will wear their Academy PE kit. Year 10 will be in full uniform as they are participating in a careers day.

### Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> July

You will be aware from previous messages, that we have an earlier finish on our last day of term, Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> July. All students will leave site by 12.45pm. Those on lunch 1 will have these as normal. Lunch arrangements will be 'grab and go' for those on lunch 2, who wish to take food with them.

## **Results Day**

### **A Level Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> August**

A Level results will be released on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> August this year. We will be distributing these results face to face from the school dining hall from 9:00am until 11.00am.

### **GCSE**

GCSE results will be released on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> August this year. We will be distributing these results face to face from 9:00 am until 11:00 am in the school dining hall.

If students are unable to collect the results in person, they may nominate someone else to collect on their behalf but will need to email our Exams Officer, Mrs Beverley ([kbeverley@newarkacademy.co.uk](mailto:kbeverley@newarkacademy.co.uk)) with the name of their nominated person.

## **Changes to lessons next academic year**

From September, students will follow a two-week timetable; week A and week B. These will be highlighted on their paper and electronic copies of the timetable to avoid any confusion.

All lessons will increase from 50 minutes to one hour. This change means that we will reduce the number of lessons a day from six lessons to five lessons. There are many advantages to this change. Firstly, it will provide students with more time in lessons to complete independent tasks, which is something student voice feedback has highlighted as a real positive change. Secondly, it means that all students will have fewer lessons in the afternoon, after lunch, which will help maintain higher levels of concentration. Finally, the change will reduce the number of movement times during the school day, and maximise learning opportunities.

Please see below the new timings for lessons.

<b>KS3</b>			<b>KS4/5</b>		
<b>Period</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>
<b>Arrival</b>	<b>8.25</b>		<b>Arrival</b>	<b>8.25</b>	
Period 1	8.30	9.30	Period 1	8.30	9.30
Period 2	9.30	10.30	Period 2	9.30	10.30
Break 1	10.30	10.50	Crew	10.30	11.00
Crew	10.50	11.20	Break 2	11.00	11.20
Period 3	11.20	12.20	Period 3	11.20	12.20
Lunch 1	12.20	12.55	Period 4	12.20	13.20
Period 4	12.55	13.55	Lunch 2	13.20	13.55
Period 5	13.55	14.55	Period 5	13.55	14.55
			Period 6* (NA 6 only)	14.55	15.55

**Please note, that this change in the number and length of lessons does NOT change the timings of the school day.**

## **September Return**

Following three days of staff inset/preparation on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> August, Friday 30<sup>th</sup> August and Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September, all students will return to the Academy on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

On Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September, all students will go straight to their Crew Leaders classrooms. Once registered, they will spend the remainder of Period 1 completing a number of key induction activities so they are well prepared to start subject lessons from Period 2.

Parents/Carers will receive the necessary Crew Leader and room information for their children via email nearer the time. A reminder that our Academy day commences at 8.25am and all students must be through the bottom pedestrian gate before this time.

**Our new Year 7 children will be required to bring a packed lunch with them for their first week with us, whilst we set-up their cashless Squid accounts.** Please note, those children who are eligible for free school meals will have these provided from the first day so will not be required to bring a packed lunch with them.

Finally, I would like to make parents aware that parking is limited on site. Please arrange to pick up your child offsite.

I hope you all have a lovely summer and look forward to continuing to work closely with you next year.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Miss Peňa', written in a cursive style with a horizontal line through the middle.

Miss Peňa  
Head Teacher