

24th July 2025

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 begin by extending a heartfelt thank you to all our parents and carers for their continued support throughout this academic year. The success of our Academy and its young people is built on a strong partnership between home and school, and I am truly grateful to those who have consistently supported our work and shared in our ambitions for every child.

I would also like to take this opportunity to recognise the hard work and dedication of our students. They have approached the year's challenges with resilience, determination, and a commitment to excellence - truly embodying our school mantra: "Work hard, be kind." It has been an absolute pleasure to get to know them and to spend time with such a remarkable group of young people.

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 sadly be saying goodbye to colleagues who have been a key part of the journey Newark Academy has been on. I am sure our families will want to join me in thanking these staff for all they have done and wishing them the very best for the future.

Mr Athey – Assistant Head Teacher. At the end of this academic year, we will be saying farewell to Mr Athey, who will be taking on an exciting new senior leadership role at Joseph Whitaker School. Mr Athey has been a valued member of Newark Academy for 14 years, and his impact has been profound. Throughout his time with us, he has played a pivotal pastoral role, always placing the wellbeing and development of our students at the heart of his work. His unwavering passion for improving the life chances of young people has been evident in everything he does. His commitment, integrity, and dedication to our students and school community have been exceptional, and he will be greatly missed.

Several other colleagues also leave us at the end of this academic year to seek new challenges. We want to therefore thank Miss Ulicki, Mr Huggard, Miss Rudd, Miss Stage, and Mrs Travis for all their hard work and the positive impact they have had on our students, supporting them to realise their future ambitions.

Next term we will welcome and introduce our new staff who are excited to be joining us and working with your children.

Changes to Crews

As we prepare for the new academic year, some students may have a change in Crew Leader due to staff movements. Crew Leaders play a key pastoral role and are the first point of contact for both students and parents.

Please be assured that any changes have been made with the child's best interests in mind, considering group dynamics, tutor expertise, and the learning environment. Confirmation of Crew Leaders and room details will be shared with parents and carers via email by the end of tomorrow.

Progress Reports

Year 10 and Year 12 students received their progress reports at the start of the week, and Key Stage 3 student reports have been uploaded to My Child At School (MCAS). These reports include the outcomes of recent assessments, which reflect how well students have retained and accurately applied the knowledge taught over the course of the year(s). In addition, the reports include updated Effort Grades (on a scale of 1 to 4), which provide an overview of each student's individual effort in each subject.

Attitude to Learning Letters

In addition to the progress reports issued twice a year, we also share Attitude to Learning (ATL) scores with parents and carers every half term. These scores (1 to 4) are calculated as the average of four key indicators: attendance, punctuality, positive behaviour points, and negative behaviour points. These are also available on MCAS.

If you have any questions or queries regarding either the Progress Reports or ATL letters, please direct them to the email address included on the letters.

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 mindful that many students will have grown over the summer, and it is essential that skirts are an appropriate length when worn in September. Skirts should be knee-length and worn as intended as part of our smart and respectful uniform policy.

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). We also operate an Exchange uniform shop with excellent quality items for parents to benefit from.

Lockers

All lockers will be cleared over the summer holiday. Children who currently have lockers were notified in advance of the need to remove all items from them before the end of term (Friday 25th July), when the academic year ends. They were also directed to take their lock home with them.

End of Term Plans Friday 25th July

You will be aware from previous messages that we have an earlier finish on our last day of term, Friday 25th July. All students will leave site by 1:30pm. 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. Transport has been rearranged to fit in with the end of school timings.

Results Day

A Level Thursday 15th August

A Level results will be released on Thursday 14th August this year. We will be distributing these results face to face from the school dining hall from 8:30am until 10:30am.

GCSE

GCSE results will be released on Thursday 21st August this year. We will be distributing these results face to face from 8:30am until 10:30am 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, Miss Anderson (nanderson@newarkacademy.co.uk) with the name of their nominated person.

NA6 Enrolment

Students will be able to enrol on to Key Stage 5 courses on GCSE results day (Thursday 21st August). Staff will be available until 12.30pm to ensure new, external students have enough time to get to us after collecting their results. The final sign up, when our new Year 12 students will receive crew information, timetables and photo IDs will take place on our second INSET Day, Friday 29th August and we will communicate directly with those students before this date.

Monday 1st September Return

Following two days of staff INSET/preparation on Thursday 28th August and Friday 29th August, all students will return to the Academy on Monday 1st September. A reminder that our Academy day commences at **8.25am** and all students must be through the bottom pedestrian gate before this time.

On Monday 1st 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.

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 ParentPay 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 packed lunch with them.

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

Charity Fund Raise

As announced on our social media this week, we've been raising money for the Teenage Cancer Trust. We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who has supported this cause - your generosity means the world. A special shout-out goes to our incredible sixth formers, who have been the driving force behind this initiative. Your energy and commitment have truly made a difference.

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

Yours sincerely,

Miss Peña

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Miss Peña', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Head Teacher