

JH/CC

12 July 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

I am privileged to have been appointed the Principal of Ash Hill Academy, and look forward to working with you in order to ensure that the academy continues to go from strength to strength. My vision of the academy will build on the concept that education is inclusive and centred solely around improving the life chances of all students.

I will outline my expectations to students in an assembly on the first day back in September. I would like to congratulate the current year 11 students for the hard work and determination they have showed whilst preparing for their exams. I am sure that their hard work will be deservedly rewarded.

Results for students who sat summer examinations will be available to collect as outlined in School Notice Number 2 below. Results will not be posted out.

As you will all be aware, Mr David Williams has now left Ash Hill to become the Headteacher of Netherthorpe School in Chesterfield and we all wish him every success for the future.

Finally, I would like to wish all students and their families an enjoyable and safe holiday and I look forward to seeing students back for their first day of the new academic year.

SCHOOL NOTICES

1. Last day of term - Friday 15th July 2016

Friday 15th July is the final day of term for students. Students are to attend form period and lessons 1 and 2 will run as normal up until 11 o'clock. Quality learning experiences will continue to be delivered and all students are expected to be on task.

During the morning there will be a series of assemblies delivered to each year group. These assemblies will be used to update the students on plans and procedures for the new academic year.

Following break, students will go back into form class from 11.15 until 11.50am. During this time the students will be engaged in a range of end of year activities including quizzes and games.

Lunch will be served at the earlier time of 11.50am to all students. At 12.20pm students will go back to their form class to get their afternoon registration mark and say their final farewells.

Students will be released for the summer break at 12.30pm and the school buses have been organised to collect the students at this time.

2. Public Examination Results

Examination Results will be available for collection from the academy's Main Reception as follows:

- A Level Results on **Thursday 18 August from 9am until 12 noon**
- GCSE Results on **Thursday 25 August:**

Y11 Students from 9am until 12 noon

Y10 Students from 10.30am until 12 noon

Results which have not been collected during the above times will only be available for students in September.

If parents are collecting results on behalf of their children, you will need to bring identification together with a letter from your son/daughter authorising this.

3. First day of the new academic year

As you all are aware, the timing of the new academic day has changed from September 2016. Students need to be in school and ready for learning by 8.25am every morning. They will leave at 2.30pm unless they are involved in after school activities or in detention, the finish time will then be 3.30pm.

The first day back for students in Years 7 and 9 is **Monday 5 September** and for students in Years 8, 10 and 11 is **Tuesday 6 September**.

Students in Year 7 should go directly to the Auditorium and students in all other year groups should go to their new form rooms.

4. Uniform

Please find attached to this letter documentation with regard to the academy's uniform policy.

5. Safeguarding

Tracey Page Assistant Principal, is the Lead Designated Safeguarding officer at Ash Hill Academy. Contact details: paget@ashhillacademy.org.uk, or telephone the academy on 01302 840961.

Additional qualified staff are:

Sheila Welch - welchs@ashhillacademy.org.uk

Elaine Sprott - sprotte@ashhillacademy.org.uk

Karen Falkingham - falkinghamk@ashhillacademy.org.uk

Julie Ryan - ryanj@ashhillacademy.org.uk

Sandra Fotheringham - fotheringhams@ashhillacademy.org.uk

Carol Cartwright - cartwrightc@ashhillacademy.org.uk

6. Learning Support

As we prepare for the new academic year, some members of staff will start to move into new roles which we believe will ensure our students are fully supported on their learning journey at Ash Hill. The biggest change will be the introduction of Learning Managers who will oversee and support the pastoral and academic progress of each student in their year group. Learning Managers will replace the current Heads of Year and will act as the main link between home and the academy. From September, should you wish to contact the academy to discuss your child, here is who you should contact:

Learning Manager for Year 7 : Mrs Fotheringham
Learning Manager for Year 8 : Mr Johnston
Learning Manager for Year 9 : Mrs Falkingham
Learning Manager for Year 10 : Mrs Sprott
Learning Manager for Year 11 : Mrs Wilkinson
Learning Manager for Year 12/13: Mrs Banks

In addition, we are also introducing two new provisions: the Bridge and the Personal Learning Centre. Mrs Liddle will support those students who are referred to the Bridge which will support our more vulnerable and less confident students. The Bridge will also develop the literacy and numeracy skills of those students who require a more personalised programme of support. The Personal Learning centre will be overseen by Mrs Swainston who will continue to support those students in Key Stage 4 who require targeted intervention in order to get the best possible outcomes in their assessments and examinations.

7. Preventing Radicalisation

Mrs E Guest, Leader of PSE and Careers, has implemented a robust PSE curriculum for all students at Ash Hill Academy 2015/16. The content includes the statutory delivery of British Values and all aspect under the Prevent agenda.

All staff recently took part in a highly informative training session covering all aspects of Radicalisation.

8. Attendance

It is of vital importance that your child attends school regularly to ensure that they achieve the best that they can and maximise chances in later life. The minimum expectation for your child's attendance is 97%. Parents will be contacted if attendance falls below 96.1%.

Your child's Attendance Certificate is enclosed with this letter; please can you discuss any issues with your son/daughter. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to speak to our Attendance Office.

I would also like to remind you that holidays in term time will not be authorised.

9. Parking on academy premises and bus bay

Please can I ask that parents do **not** park on the school drive or in the staff car parks and the bus bay when dropping off or collecting children from the academy. This is creating a **health and safety** risk for your children.

10. Staff Update

We are very sorry to see several of our teachers leaving us this year. We wish them the best of luck with their new appointments and hope that they will keep in touch with Ash Hill in the future.

The teachers who are leaving this year are:

- Mrs K Davies (English)
- Mrs S Johnston (SENCO and English)
- Miss R Lawrence (English)
- Mrs L Muddin (English)
- Mrs K Thornton (English)
- Mr B Hepworth (History)
- Mr J Tibbitts (Maths)
- Mrs T Webster (Physical Education)

We are very pleased to welcome the following members of staff to Ash Hill Academy in September:

- Mr D Henry (Maths)
- Mr T Hodson (Science)
- Mrs Y Murray (English)
- Miss S Mackenzie (English)
- Mr J Cameron (English)

10. Key dates for September and October 2016

Monday 5 September	The Academy re-opens for students in Years 7 and 9
Tuesday 6 September	The Academy re-opens for students in Years 8, 10 and 11
Friday 9 September	School Photographs for Year 7 students
Tuesday 20 September	Open Evening for Year 6 Parents
Friday 21 October	The Academy closes for the Autumn Half Term Holiday

11. Academy Education Advisory Board (Governors)

The academy is looking for parents/carers to become Governors. If you are interested in finding out more information, please contact Mrs C Cartwright by emailing info@ashhillacademy.org.uk.

Yours faithfully

J HIGGINS
Principal