

12th July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Firstly, I would like to extend our thanks to parents, carers and students for the commitment they have shown towards their studies in these unprecedented times. I would also like to thank all of those who have taken the time to contact us to thank school for the work we have provided and the provision we have put in place. Your support is warmly appreciated by everyone here at Ash Hill Academy.

Here are a few important points and reminders to help us have a smooth start in September 2021:

Summer Work on Teams

To support students with learning which has been affected by the period of time schools have been closed this academic year, work has been provided for students to complete during the summer break. This work has been set as an assignment in students Teams classrooms for their subjects. Students can work through material set at their leisure and are not expected to submit work.

Key Dates

Wednesday 1 st September 2021	Year 7 & Year 11 students in school
Thursday 2 nd September 2021	Years 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11 students in school

Attendance and Punctuality

We expect all students to attend the Academy each day unless there is a valid and justified reason. Students must attend to achieve and every lesson matters. Students should arrive at the Academy by 8.15am and at their period 1 classroom by 8.20am, lessons begin at 8.25am. We ask if parents are dropping their children off at the Academy, could they please do so before 8.15am.

If your child is absent from the Academy, please telephone every day on **01302 562541 option 1** or email to attendance@ashhillacademy.org.uk to give a reason for absence. Staff are available to take calls from 8.00am onwards; however, we do have an answering machine service out of the Academy hours from 4.00pm until 8.00am. Alternatively, as you are already aware, contact can be made via the School Gateway App. You must register your email address with the Academy in the first instance. Further details from www.schoolgateway.com.

We ask where possible to make any appointments including medical, after Academy hours. We appreciate that this may not always be possible. With that in mind, we would suggest if any appointments are to be made could they please be made towards the end of the Academy day. This would ensure that your child misses the minimum amount of valuable learning from their lesson. Students must sign out at student reception and follow the Academy procedures. The Academy cannot authorise all day absences for medical/doctor's appointments.

If you do take a holiday during term time, we will formally request the Local Authority to issue a Fixed Penalty Notice.

There will be many opportunities for students to experience trips and events in the forthcoming academic year. The Academy will reserve the right to withdraw these opportunities for students with poor attendance and behaviour.

Students should have an attendance of 97% or better.

Academy Uniform

Students must arrive at the Academy wearing Delta uniform. Shoes must be plain black and polishable with no embellishments, bows, or badges. Please note that no adjustments will be made to girls' shoes in order to cover embellishments, in particular the 'Vivienne Westwood' style shoes. Jewellery and smart watches, including Fitbits, are not permitted.

The DELTA uniform incorporating the Delta logo is only available to purchase from a company called SPT Uniforms Ltd. Parents/Carers can purchase uniform either:

1. On-line via the website: www.sptuniforms.co.uk
2. Visit the [Retail Shop](#) - SPT Uniforms Ltd, 115 Main Street, Garforth, Leeds, LS25 1AF (please check opening times on website: www.sptuniforms.co.uk)

If there is an issue regarding uniform, please contact your child's Learning Manager via the Academy email address: info@ashhillacademy.org.uk as soon as possible, to enable us to resolve the matter quickly. If you require any financial assistance in purchasing this uniform, please contact the Finance Office at the Academy via the same email address.

Ties

The Academy will continue to sell ties. The price will remain the same £5.25 from 1st September 2021; however, they can only be purchased via ParentPay.

Planners/Knowledge Organisers/Reading Books

Students must have their planners/knowledge organisers/reading books every day. This is the 'passport to learning' and will be checked by the Senior Leadership Team as they enter the Academy. A detention will be issued if a student does not have their planner. Graffiti on planners is not acceptable, if defaced, the planner will be confiscated, a detention will be issued and a new planner must be purchased. The cost of a replacement planner will be £2.00 from 1st September 2021. They can only be purchased via ParentPay.

School Meals

The cost of a school meal will remain the same at £2.30 from 1st September 2021. ParentPay is the only form of payment for meals. Children entitled to free school meals will have this amount credited to their account.

Free School Meals and Pupil Premium

Depending on your circumstances, your child/children may be eligible for Free School Meals, which could also enable the Academy to access Pupil Premium funding. Please contact Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council FSM@doncaster.gov.uk or telephone number 01302 735336, option 1.

Bicycles and Scooters

Please note that bicycles/scooters are brought onto and kept on the school site at their owners' risk. While the Academy will take necessary precautions to keep these items secure, the Academy cannot be held responsible for loss or damage whilst on the school site.

School Gateway App

Our main form of communication between the Academy and home is email as we move towards a paperless system. Your child's progress, achievements and successes will be communicated in this way. You must register your email address with the Academy. Please download the School Gateway App to your chosen device from the App Store or visit www.schoolgateway.com. This is a free communication system.

Arrangements on return

As part of the return on September, students will be asked to do two on-site Covid tests. Further details will follow regarding consent and timings of the tests.

We wish you a happy and restful summer and look forward to seeing all students in September.

Yours faithfully,



Richard Brooke
Principal