

28th March 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Year 11 Parental Letter

I would like to thank all students, parents and carers for their hard work and commitment to Ash Hill Academy over the past term; it has been a very busy and successful one and we are very grateful for your continued support.

I would like to share with you some important updates and reminders to reiterate the expectations we have for all our students.

Easter Revision

To support your child with preparation for the final examinations this summer, we have organised a series of revision sessions across a number of curriculum areas during the Easter holidays, which your child will have been invited to. Please see the links to the Easter revision letter, timetable and forms on the website: <https://www.ashhillacademy.org.uk/ashhill/updates/year-11-easter-revision-2/>

We hope that our Year 11 students will be able to attend as many sessions as possible.

Attendance

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. *This is vitally important for all Year 11 students at this crucial time.* The Academy expectation is 97% attendance. As a parent /carer, you will receive a weekly message with your child(s) current attendance. The Academy rewards students weekly and half-termly for excellent attendance.

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 7.30 am onwards; however, we do have an answering machine service out of the Academy hours from 3.30 pm until 7.30 am. Alternatively, as you are already aware, contact can be made via the My Child At School App.

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.

Punctuality

Students are expected to be in their first lesson as listed above. If students arrive after this time, then they will be issued with a detention. If your child has a medical appointment at the start of the day, please ask for an appointment card. If no card is produced when a student arrives, a detention will be issued.

Academy Holiday and Term dates

Please be reminded that holidays taken during term time will not be authorised. If you do take a holiday during term time, we will formally request the Local Authority to issue a Fixed Penalty Notice.

Exams

An exam overview will be released after Easter.

Key Dates for April and May 2024:

Thursday, 28 th March 2024	Academy closes for Easter Holiday
Monday, 15 th April 2024	Academy reopens
Monday, 6 th May 2024	May Day Bank Holiday
Friday, 24 th May 2024	Academy closes for the Summer Half Term holiday

Academic Calendar 2024 / 2025

Please note, the provisional academic calendar for 2024 / 2025 is available on the Ash Hill Academy website.

My Child At School App (MCAS)

Our main form of communication between the Academy and home and for making payments, including dinner money, trips, planners and ties, is via the My Child At School App (MCAS), as we continue to operate a paperless system. Your child's progress, achievements and successes will be communicated in this way, which is free. Please note the following important updates and modifications which I am sure you will find advantageous to you, as it will align all aspects onto one system.

Therefore, it is imperative that if you haven't already done so, you download the My Child At School App to your chosen device from the App Store or visit www.mychildatschool.com. Explanatory information is enclosed for those of you who are new to the App with easy-to-follow guidance.

Passport to the Prom

On 18th March 2024 we launched the Prom Passport. Please see the link to the letter on our website:

<https://www.ashhillacademy.org.uk/ashhill/updates/year-11-passport-to-prom/>

We outlined to all of our students what the requirements were, to ensure they are able to attend this amazing event. The criteria is as follows:

- 100% attendance to the academy
- 100% attendance to academic support
- Recall to be completed on the gate in the morning, consistently
- No C5s
- No suspensions

We appreciate all of the support you will be giving us to ensure your child achieves their best outcomes in these final weeks and have a fantastic end of year prom to celebrate their efforts.

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.

We wish you a safe, happy and restful Easter break and look forward to seeing all students back in the Academy on Monday 15th April 2024.

Yours faithfully,



Mr M Hicks

Associate Principal