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Richard Brand: Headteacher

19th July 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

Just before we all begin the well-earned summer break, I wanted to outline some details regarding reports and to share some key information to support the start of Autumn term in September.

End of Year Reports

Yesterday our Year 7 to 9 students received their final report of the year following a successful End of Year exam series. When students opened their reports yesterday there were lots of smiles and students who, rightly, were very proud of their achievements. It was lovely to see students planning with the help of their tutor how they were going to improve in individual subjects. Our only goal in reporting progress this way is to ensure that students are informed and able to take charge of their learning. A copy of this report has been emailed home today so if your child “lost” the report or you suspect it is somewhere at the bottom of their bag please look out for our email!

HAF/HAP programme

Over the summer GCC have set up a month-long programme of activities. Alongside, families who are eligible for FSM can book to receive two weeks of food hampers.

Please see the link below for more information and with instructions for how to sign up <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/haf/>.

Start of Autumn term

Unlike recent years all students (Year 7-11) will start back at school in full on Monday 5th September 2022. Students should arrive as normal in time for tutor at 0850 in full school uniform. The morning will be spent working through arrangements for the term ahead such as sorting timetables and sharing expectations. In addition, all students will have a house assembly and be given a new house tie! Students will go to normal lessons from period 3 onwards. Term dates for Academic Year 2022-3 can be found [here](#).

Staffing

We have some staff moving on at the end of this academic year – I would like to thank them all for everything they have done and wish them all the best for the future. Colleagues leaving this term are Ms R Hayden, Cover Supervisor, Ms S Paton, English Teacher, Miss S Clark, English Teacher and Ms K Westgate, Design and Technology. In addition, we are sending our best wishes to Mr A Cornish who has been away from the academy for some time through ill-health. Whilst we are sad to see these colleagues leave, we are excited that they are going on to take their next steps. It is also an exciting time for us as we have 12 new members of staff





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joining us in September driven largely by the incoming cohort of Year 7s who are the largest group to join us in the last decade.

Standards – Uniform & Attendance

As you'll be aware our uniform expectations are changing in September and students will be expected to return to school in full uniform (except house ties which will be given on Monday 5th September). More information about uniform expectations can be found [here](#) alongside details of where uniform/PE kit can be purchased. Should you have any difficulty in ensuring your child has access to full uniform please contact us at finance@thedeanacademy.org as we can help. Again, please do not wait until your child returns to school to reach out. On arrival, if any child does not have full uniform, we will make items available to them until they can be purchased.

Somewhat understandably, habits and expectations around attendance have shifted over the last 2-3 years. Due to the impact of the pandemic, we are seeing more students absent from school whereby previously they might have come in. We are looking to mark the start of the new academic year with a significant push on attendance and we would appreciate your support to help ensure that we work together to ensure your child attends well. The first few days and weeks are particularly important as, [according to a new report](#), students who miss the first days of school at the beginning of term go on to have poorer attendance overall, compared to their peers.

Finally, I would like to thank the students, staff, parents and wider community for working to support us make this a highly successful year for the school and I wish you all a very restful, and well earned, summer break.

Yours sincerely

Richard Brand
Headteacher

