

Parent Bulletin, 26th September 2025

Events wc. 29th September 2025

Week 1	
Monday 29 th September	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Year 7 Assembly (for students)
Tuesday 30 th September	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Year 8 Assembly (for students)
Wednesday 1 st October	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Year 11 Assembly (for students)Post-16 Evening, 4:30-6:30
Thursday 2 nd October	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Year 9 Assembly (for students)
Friday 3 rd October	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Year 10 Assembly (for students)

This week

It has been another great week at the academy, with students continuing to capitalise on the great start they made to the year. Attendance has remained good, with Year 7 maintaining their leaders' spot, in spite of a few germs beginning to do the rounds! As a reminder, students are always encouraged to attend school if they are well enough to do so. On the rare occasion that this may not be the case, please contact the academy to provide reasons for absence as soon as possible in the morning.

Two visits went out this week – a Year 10 Geography visit to Stratford, and a Year 10/9 Art and Graphics Design visit to the Harry Potter Studios. Students were fabulous representing the academy and we are now looking forward to a quieter few weeks after the buzz of so many visits out and about.

Revision Guides and Workbooks – Year 10 and Year 11

Revision guides were provided for students across many subjects when students started courses in Year 10. Students in Year 10 have also now been equipped with Maths Revision Guides and Workbooks. These are valuable resources to support students with revision and home learning. If your child is missing any of their revision guides, please get in touch. Subject teachers will set home learning to use these resources from time to time, as well as other online resources such as GCSEPod which students can access using their school email address.

Post 16 Evening

Students in Years 9-11, and their parents, are invited to attend our annual post-16 evening on Wednesday next week (1st October). We will have a range of post-16 providers and employers on hand to answer questions and provide information on students' next steps and education and career opportunities after secondary school. This event is a drop-in event, and there is no need to sign up in advance.

PSHE Curriculum – Autumn Term

This term students will be taught the following topics should you wish to discuss them further at home:

- Year 7 – 'Welcome to OEA' – Transition to secondary school, Friendship & bullying, Staying safe online and Families and Young Carers.
- Year 8 – Self-esteem & body image, Law & order and crime.
- Year 9 – Mental health and Identity & diversity. The Relationship & sex education unit* will begin towards the end of this Autumn term and continue into the spring term. This will cover: consent, STI's, contraception, gender identity & sexuality and recognising the signs of abuse.
- Year 10 – 'Snagged' – looking at grooming, relationships, keeping safe online and Personal finance.
- Year 11 – Careers and the future, Sexual health* – recapping STI's & contraception and also looks at teenage pregnancy and the impact on an individual and fertility: what could affect the chances of becoming a parent in the future. The final unit the Year 11's will study 'Looking after yourself' starts towards the end of November and will continue into the Spring term. This looks at drugs & alcohol, the impact of social media on mental health, the wider effects of vaping, the importance of self-examination and blood, organ and stem cell donation.

*PSHE & Relationship & Sex Education (RSE) units

We aim to work in partnership with parents when planning and delivering RSE and we would hope that no parent would feel the need to withdraw their child. However, as a parent you have the right to withdraw your child from all or part of the Sex Education component of the RSE programme, except for the statutory elements included in the National Curriculum for Science. You will not be able to withdraw your child from Relationships Education or Health Education content, as outlined by the Department for Education. For further information about your rights as a parent and the aims of the RSE curriculum, please read 'Understanding Relationships, Sex and Health Education at your child's secondary school: a guide for parents'. A copy of this can be found on the academy's website PSHE page (Curriculum->Subjects->Lifestyle->PSHE) or alternatively, please click [here](#). If you do wish to remove your child, this must be discussed with the Principal, Mr Daniels, before Friday 10th October 2025. You will need to provide suitable work for your child for the lessons they are withdrawn from. If you would like to view any of the lesson resources we deliver as part of the PSHE curriculum, or if you have any queries or concerns then please contact Mrs L Pettit through the school office.

Hello Yellow, World Mental Health Day, Friday 10th October

On 10th October, we will be participating in Young Minds' 'Hello Yellow'. This is an opportunity to raise awareness for World Mental Health Day, particularly for young people's mental health and wellbeing. Students and staff are invited to swap out one (or more!) items of uniform for something yellow. So... if you'd like to join in, feel free to swap out your school jumper for a yellow hoodie, your school tie for a mustard option or your school shoes for honey coloured trainers.

Homework Timetable

Please find below an example of a homework timetable for students in Years 7-9 below. This timetable sets aside an opportunity each week / fortnight for students to spend time focusing on home learning activities across all of their subjects. Maths, English and Science set one piece of homework per week. All other subjects set one piece per fortnight.

	30 minutes	30 minutes
Week 1		
Monday	English	Computer science
Tuesday	Maths	Ethics
Wednesday	Science	Design Technology
Thursday	Spanish / French	Personal reading
Friday	Music	Numeracy (TBC)
Week 2		
Monday	English	History
Tuesday	Maths	Graphics
Wednesday	Science	Art
Thursday	Geography	Food Technology
Friday	Drama	Personal reading

Students may prefer to organise their time differently, for example to accommodate other after school activities, some students may prefer to complete some homework at the weekend. Some students may also take advice to undertake more frequent practice in French / Spanish, dispersing their 30 minutes into a few more sessions.