





26 October 2022

### Dear parent/carer

I hope you and your families are well at the end of our first half term. I would like to thank you all for your support during my first half term in post. It has been a very busy but rewarding start to the school year. Due to the dedication and expertise of our staff and the hard work and determination of our students we have had a half term full of success with much to celebrate. I am very proud of our community and all that they have achieved. Please have a read of our new newsletter here.

## **Basic standards and expectations**

We will be continuing to focus on the **basics in class and around school**. We expect the school to be safe, calm, and orderly. We expect our students to be **polite**, **and respectful to all**. They should come to school on time every day, wear the correct uniform and be ready to learn with the necessary equipment. Our staff will expect excellent behaviour and they will provide consistent and fair discipline based on a clear code of conduct. Very simply we expect all students to:

- Attend every day, on time, fully equipped.
- Follow instructions from staff, first time, every time.
- Listen carefully when the teacher or others are speaking.
- Put their hands up and wait for permission to speak.
- Always try their hardest be the best version of themselves.
- Stand behind chairs at the end of the lesson and wait to be dismissed in an orderly way.

Where behaviour falls short of these expectation, serious consequences will follow.

I thank many of you for your support as our staff continue to work hard to develop a school culture of high expectation and high standards of behaviour. I would like to remind you that any verbal abuse of our staff by parents or students is not acceptable, and further action will be taken on if this happens.

#### **Attendance**

All our students should be in school every day. Regular absence from school will be challenged and parents will be issued with warning periods and/or fixed penalty notices if your child's attendance falls to an unacceptable level. We must report all attendance to the local authority and to the Department of Education (DFE). We expect a **minimum of 97% attendance** for all students. This can only be achieved with **2 days or less** absence per term.

You may be expected to provide medical evidence if your child is absent. Medical and dental appointments should be booked outside of school hours wherever possible. Holidays will not be agreed in term time and fixed penalty fines will be issued.

Absence from school impacts negatively on academic achievement and future success. You can see how much learning is lost in the table below.

The Academy of St Francis of Assisi Gardeners Drive Liverpool L6 7UR United Kingdom

0 - 2 days off	0 - 10	99 - 100%	Excellent attendance – student is
	Lessons missed		accessing all learning opportunities
3 - 6 days off	15 – 30	97 - 98% Good attendance	
	Lessons missed		Some learning opportunities missed
7 - 10 days off	35 – 50	95 - 96%	Concerning attendance
	Lessons missed		Risk of underachievement
II - 18 days off	55 – 90	91 - 94 %	Very concerning attendance
	Lessons missed		Severe risk of underachievement
19 or more days	95 or more	90% or less	PERISTENTLY ABSENT
off	Lessons missed		Extreme risk of
			underachievement

Please ensure that you have downloaded the Arbor App so that you can track your child's attendance and punctuality. #2daysorless #everydaycounts

## **Arbor Parent Portal/Arbor App**

Please sign up as soon as possible. We are now using the online platform Arbor Education to communicate with you more efficiently and allow you key access to your son/daughter's Academy information including attendance, behaviour, timetable, and homework.

To access the Arbor Parent Portal/Arbor App: Go to <a href="https://login.arbor.sc">https://login.arbor.sc</a> and click 'Forgot your password?' to finish setting up your account using your email account.

### Return after half term

We return from holiday on **Monday 7 November at 8.35am**. All students must attend in **full school uniform including blazer, tie, and school shoes**. Coats and hoodies should not be worn in the school building. Students who do not comply with this expectation will face further consequences. Please help your child's smooth return to school by ensuring the basics are correct. We also expect **every child to have a school bag** large enough to fit an A4 sized book and a pencil case

#### Key dates for this term

	Dates	Student return
October Half Term	Monday 24 October – Friday 4 November 2022	
	Monday 7 November – Wednesday 21 December 2022	Students return to school at 8.35am on Monday 7 November
Christmas Holidays	Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December — Tuesday 3 January 2023	
Trust INSET day	Wednesday 4 January 2023	
Half Term 3	Thursday 5 January – Friday 10 February 2023	Students return to school at 8.35am on Thursday 5 January



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### Breakfast, break and lunch

We run a free breakfast each day between 8am and 8.25am. We also serve food at breaktime each day and this is available for a small charge. Our students must have money on their account to buy breaktime snack. At lunchtime, all students can buy a hot or cold lunch. If your child is not registered for a free school meal, they will need money on their electronic account. Over half term, please check your child's account and make sure that they have money on their account for after half term.

# Staff changes

Mr Schofield (Head of Year) left the Academy over the summer holidays. He will be greatly missed, and we wish him the best of luck for the future. Mr Doss is kindly covering as Head of Year 10 as an interim measure.

I wish you a very blessed and restful half term. We look forward to seeing all our students back in school well-rested, in full school uniform, and keen to learn on Monday 7 November (Week B).

Yours sincerely

Ms Jo Leech Headteacher

Proud to be a member o



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