

17 February 2023

Dear parents/carers

We had a very busy third half term at the Academy. We have a busy period ahead as we prepare for Lent and Easter, and Year 11 continue their preparation for their GCSE exams. You can read all about our wonderful students and all their news in our newly revamped newsletter. So many of our students truly live out our Academy values each day showing **respect**, **ambition**, **and pride**.

### **Uniform standards**

We are having a continued focus on uniform and basic standards. Most of our students come to school wearing their uniform with pride, however, some students are falling short of the basic expectation, and this is something that needs to improve. To be clear, students who come to school without the correct uniform, will be provided with the missing items such as shoes, blazer, or tie. For those that consistently refuse to cooperate with basic rules over clothing (for example coats) they will be placed on daily detentions and parents will be invited into school to discuss how we can rectify the matter. If you are struggling to provide the correct uniform, please contact the office because we may be able to assist you.

### **Behaviour standards**

I know we can count on your full support in making sure that your child attends the Academy on time, every day and behaves in an appropriate manner. I would like to thank you for your support in creating a positive learning culture in our Academy. Most of our children are well behaved and respectful. That said, there are a minority of students whose behaviour continues to be disruptive and disrespectful. This is not acceptable, and those students and their parents will meet with myself, members of the Senior Leadership Team and the Governing Body.

Since the start of this term there have been daily detentions for students who will not behave accordingly to our behaviour policy. Our behaviour policy can be found <u>here</u>. There have been daily detentions for students who are consistently late and have poor punctuality. This system will continue this half term. If your child receives a detention, please ensure they attend and speak to them about their conduct and behaviour.

We expect that students should enter classrooms calmly, be respectful to teachers and each other, complete their work to the best standard possible, and follow basic classroom rules. On corridors and around the school site, students should walk on the left, again in a calm and orderly manner, treating everyone in our school community with respect.

Talking to staff and each other with **respect** and **manners** continues to be a central focus for us in 2023. Students must speak to staff and their peers with respect. There should be a positive and supportive relationship between school and parents. We expect parents/carers to communicate with the school in a positive way to support your child. Most parents/carers do engage in this way and are polite in their communication with school. I would like to remind you that any verbal abuse or threats towards our staff by parents or students is not acceptable and will not be tolerated. Further action will be taken if this happens.

Proud to be a member of



Al Saints Multi Academy Trust is the operating name for The Liverpool Joint Catholic and Church of England Academies Trust The Academy of St Francis of Assisi Gardeners Drive Liverpool L6 7UR United Kingdom

 T:
 0151 260 7600

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We want our Academy to be the best it can be. We are working hard to inspire our students to be the best version of themselves and to flourish during their time in school. Working in partnership together is what will make our school better.

# Attendance and punctuality standards

We are continuing our focus on attendance and punctuality. All our students should be in school every day. Students are expected to arrive at the Academy by 8.40. If late, they will serve a detention on the same day. Any student who arrives after 9.30am will receive an unauthorised late (U code) and this counts as an absence mark. To support your child to achieve good attendance and reach their full potential we request that where possible medical appointments are made outside of their school day. Losing time during the school day impacts on your child's attendance and could hinder their progress. If your child is too ill to attend school, you should contact school on the first day of absence before 8.30am on 0151 260 700. If we do not receive a reason for absence, we will contact you via text and/or by phone requesting an explanation. Until a reason is received the absence will be recorded as unauthorised.

Where there is regular absence from school parents may be issued with warning periods and/or fixed penalty notices. 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**.

We will be running a school trip as we approach the Easter holiday for all students who meet the requirement of two days or less absence (Jan-March) combined with a good standard of behaviour. **#2daysorless #everydaycounts** 

0 - 2 Days off	0 – 10 Lessons missed	99 - 100%	Excellent – student is accessing all learning opportunities	
3 - 6 Days off	15 – 30 Lessons missed	97 - 98%	Good – very few learning opportunities missed	
7 - 10 Days off	35 – 50 Lessons missed	95 - 96%	Concern - risk of underachievement	
11 - 18 Days off	55 – 90 Lessons missed	91 - 94 %	Severe risk of underachievement	
19 or more Days off	95 or more Lessons missed	90% or less	Extreme risk of underachievement Persistent Absence	

# Attendance Winners for this term

Year Group winner = Year 7

Form Winners

Year	Form	
7	AD	
8	EN	

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9	JD
10	WW
11	PL

### **100% Attendance Winners**

Year 7 Ellie Harrison and Darius Radu

Year 8 Diana Sitnikova and Justin Szczerba

Year 9 Dinuepsiba Dorlingkenath and Nigel Gundawakuru

Year 10 Fatoumatta Bah and Adam Safieh

Year 11 Talyana Dimumbe and Bright Ofori

# Arbor Parent Portal/Arbor App

We are 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. **Please sign up as soon as possible.** 

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

### Dates for your diary

All students return	Monday 20 February 2023 – onsite for 8.35am	
Industry Expo Day	Friday 24 February 2023 – all years	
Careers Week	W/C 6 March 2023	
Easter Holidays	Term ends at normal time on Friday 31 March	
	Students return to school on Monday 14 April	

### **Return to school**

The Academy will re-open for all students on **Monday 20 February** and all students should be on the premises by 8.35am. There is free breakfast available from 8.00am.

I would like to thank you for your support. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's form tutor or Head of Year in the first instance.

Yours sincerely

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Ms Jo Leech Headteacher

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