

3<sup>rd</sup> September 2024

**Re: Start of Year Update/ Reminders**

Dear Parent / Carer

I hope that this letter finds you and your family well; I write with information and reminders regards the start of year arrangements.

Mr Percival was dearly looking forward to taking up post as Principal from 1<sup>st</sup> September. Unfortunately, during the summer break he received a medical diagnosis that has meant that the start of his formal tenure as Principal has been postponed. I am delighted that he is on the road to recovery and is hopeful that he will join us later in the Autumn or for the start of 2025. In his absence, I will again step up as Acting Head of School and will be supported both by the Senior Leadership Team and Mr Greenough (Trust Director of School Improvement).

**New Academic Year 2024-2025**

School will reopen to students over Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September or on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2024. There is a phased return by year group with our new Year 7 students and exam classes (Year 11 and Year 13) joining us from 9.20am on Wednesday. They will be joined by students in Years 8, 9 and 10 from 9.20am on Thursday. The standard school day from 8.30am until 3pm will run from Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September with all students required to be on site no later than 8.25am every morning.

Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> September	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> September
Staff INSET Day Academy closed to students.	Staff INSET Day Academy closed to students.	First day back for Years 7, 11 and 13. <b>START TIME ON THIS DAY WILL BE 9:20am</b>	First day back for Years 8, 9 and 10. <b>All years in school. START TIME ON THIS DAY WILL BE 9:20am</b>

From Friday onwards, Breakfast Club will also resume from 8.00am. After-school activities, including academic interventions, will recommence from Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September. This will conclude at 4.00pm for those children involved.

From September, Airedale Academy will run a two-week timetable. This means that lessons may vary between weeks A and B, providing additional teaching time for English and Maths. Students will be issued their new timetable on their first day in school. Please support your child in ensuring they have made note of their weekly lesson schedule and are actively carrying a copy of their timetables every day.

**Uniform and Behaviour**

At the end of the last academic year, we issued new guidance around uniform expectations, please ensure that you have read this before the start of the new academic year and if you have any queries please get in touch with the school.

### **Academy App**

It is important we can stay connected with each other. We have our own academy app called **My Child at School** (MCAS) which is available on iOS and Android from wherever you download your usual apps. It is free to download and free to use. Please search your app store for My Child at School provided by Bromcom.

Many families are now using My Child at School (MCAS) offers you so much information at your fingertips such as:

- Access to your student's timetable, the academy calendar and attendance information for your child.
- Communication facilities to improve contact between parents / carers and schools.
- School Announcements.
- Instant access to student reports and letters.

MCAS is also the only way you can currently pay for things at school such as lunches, trips, revision guides etc.

If you have not already downloaded the app, please do so as you will then receive letters and messages immediately. If we need to contact you regarding your child, for example if they are ill or need to come home, we can send you a notification and you will see it straight away.

To activate your app, you will need an activation code. If you need this resending, please call the office or email us and we will get it to you. The office can help with any queries you have about setting the app up or about using it once you have it.

If you already have the app, please can you check in your phone settings to ensure that you have Bromcom notifications switched on.

### **Attendance and Term Time Holidays**

The Academy will continue to have attendance as a priority this academic year. We do all we can to encourage students to attend school every day and value your support from home with this. Holidays should not be taken during term time. This will directly impact negatively on the progress of your child.

I would like to thank you in advance for the support that you will no doubt show our staff this year. It really does make a difference – not just to your child's education but to the education of all students in our community.

Yours faithfully



**Mrs C Eastwood**  
Head of School