



Magna Academy

Poole

an Aspirations Academy

Principal: Ms N Ullah

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9th September 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

It has been an excellent start to the academic year and we are delighted with the start that students have made to their learning this week. During lesson visits, we have seen high levels of engagement and enthusiasm across the academy, and are particularly pleased with how Year 7 have settled in and are already demonstrating excellent learning habits. All students have had either an introductory session or refresher session on effective self-quizzing - a key component of their homework programme - which will help them to retain all the powerful knowledge for their courses. We are proud to have an inclusive and ambitious curriculum in place for our students and we look forward to working with parents and carers this year, in order to support our students in achieving the best possible outcomes.

Uniform standards

We would like to thank parents for your continued support in helping us ensure high standards of uniform for all our students. Uniform plays a key role in promoting the ethos of the academy by providing a sense of belonging and identity which promotes self-worth and sets the tone for an education where high standards and high aspirations lead to positive outcomes. We are extremely proud of how smart our students look and as we embed the new 'House system' this year, students in Years 8-11 will receive ties in their new house colours. These will be distributed in the early part of next week.

Whilst the vast majority of students have met our expectations with regards to uniform, a small minority have not. In particular, some students have worn skirts that do not meet the Academy uniform policy either because they are not the correct length or are not of the correct material. We would like to take this opportunity to remind you that skirts must sit on the knee and cannot be made of stretchy fabric. The correct skirt can be purchased from us directly. Shoes must be plain black leather or leather look with black laces, soles and stitching. They should not have buckles, labels or decorations. Trainers, even those that are plain black, are not permitted. For a reminder, please look at the full uniform list found [here](#).

Attendance

We are pleased that our attendance remains high. However, we would like to take this opportunity to send a timely reminder of our academy's attendance expectations and our policies and procedures in relation to student absence. Our academy, while acknowledging that each family's circumstances are

different, is dedicated to the education of all our students and we strongly believe regular attendance throughout the year is essential to every child's success and fulfilment.

We actively encourage all students to aim for 97%+ attendance as a minimum; every day and every lesson counts. We are grateful for all you do at home to encourage and support this. If your child's attendance is a concern, we do have staff in the academy who work closely with families, supporting you and your child/children to improve attendance. You are welcome to raise any enquiries with our attendance lead Miss Hallett.

Working with parents and carers

Working with our parents and carers is extremely important to us as we fully acknowledge that parents and carers play a crucial role in our students' academic lives. Close cooperation and consistent messages from home and the academy will ensure the academic success and personal wellbeing of all of our students. At Magna Academy, we have different and varied opportunities for parents to work with us. Firstly, we have a newly relaunched Parents, Teachers and Friends Association (PTFA) who, in the summer term, raised over £500 which can now be used to buy additional resources to enhance the educational experience of students in the academy. In the coming weeks, we will be holding our PTFA annual general meeting when we will elect new committee members and welcome those who want to join. We would sincerely like to grow this association and are excited about the Christmas Festive Friday event that the PTFA are organising, which will take place in the evening of Friday 25th November at the academy.

Magna Academy also has a Parents' Forum, which is a representative body of parents and carers, providing an opportunity for parents and carers to put forward views to the Senior Leadership Team and enabling them to learn more about the academy and to network with others in the community. The first parents' forum meeting this academic year will be held in the early evening on Thursday 13th October. During the meeting, we will explore and discuss skills development in the academy. If you are interested in attending, please register this interest in this brief [Google Form](#). Lastly, as you would have read from the personal development letter, this year we are starting personal development workshops for parents and carers. This first workshop will be held on Friday 23rd September 9-10 am.

Tesco Fundraising

We have good news that the Local Tesco stores have included us in their Community Grant programme, running from October to January. Mr Cohen made the successful application to raise funds to support giving our students access to the most up to date computing equipment so their learning experience has real world applications in the Media and Technology fields.

When you shop in the Tesco stores and are given a blue token at the checkout, please find the community project box near the exit and vote for Magna Academy. We would really appreciate the community's support so please do spread the word for us. The project with the most votes will get a grant of up to £1,500.

Sixth Form

Our new Year 12 have made a strong and positive start to their academic year with punctual arrival to both the academy and lessons - and they look incredibly smart. The students followed a team building experience, delivered by 'Land and Wave' on their first day, which was enjoyed by all. The experience enabled our students to get to know each other in a relaxed atmosphere whilst having fun. All our students are now enrolled onto their chosen courses and have experienced at least one lesson in each subject, teachers and tutors have been enthusiastic and upbeat about their new classes. I would like to make you aware of our upcoming virtual Sixth Form expectations and meet the tutor evening on Thursday 15th September, details of which can be found in the email you have received and the letter taken home by your child. Further to this, I would like to share with you our upcoming fundraiser sleepout, in conjunction with the Bournemouth YMCA, in the Magna playground on Friday 30th September.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Ullah', written in a cursive style.

Ms N Ullah

Principal