



**Magna Academy**

**Poole**

an Aspirations Academy

Principal: Ms N Ullah

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5th September 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

### **RE: Year 7 Induction Update and Expectations Evening**

We are writing to inform you about the next stage of the Year 7 induction programme.

On Friday 2nd September, Year 7 arrived for their very first day at Magna Academy and we are delighted to share with you that they immediately made a positive impression on us. So far Year 7 have been punctual, proud of their appearance, full of enthusiasm, community spirited and eager to learn more about their new surroundings. We could not be more complimentary of their positive attitudes and contributions made so far.

During tutor time, students will participate in a number of induction-based activities. To help with your understanding of these activities, and for your on-going guidance on how best to support at home, please use the links below to access the 'need to know' induction videos that will be shared with Year 7 during week 1:

- [Rewards, Behaviour & Attendance](#)
- [Teaching & Learning, Homework, Self-Quizzing, Literacy & Oracy Techniques](#)
- [Assessment & Effective Revision](#)
- [Personal Development Curriculum](#)
- [Enrichment, House System & Student Leadership](#)

During subject lessons, students will experience a variety of new teaching techniques and subject introductions to the Key Stage 3 curriculum. Teaching staff have already been delighted with the quality of the summer activity tasks that have been handed in and will use them as a tool to celebrate student efforts and to offer early interventions, where needed.

The week beginning the 12<sup>th</sup> September, students will experience their first full week of their timetable. This will be week two of the two week teaching timetable. This also marks the start of the first wave of homework being issued. Homework will eventually comprise three tasks each evening. Each morning, tutors will check the reading and self-quizzing homework completed the night before. The breakdown of these tasks and which subject to do on each day is shown below. The maths drill worksheet will be checked by their maths teacher during their first maths lesson the following week.



| Year 7                                   | Mon   | Tue     | Wed     | Thu  | Fri     |
|--|---|---------|---------|--|---------|
| Self-Quizzing                            | Maths   | English | Science | History -<br>Week 1<br>Geography -<br>Week 2 | MFL     |
| Reading/Tassomai/<br>Maths Drill Booklet | English   | Maths   | Science | Reading                                      | Reading |
| Sparx                                    | Set first lesson of the week, due in the first lesson of the following week |         |         |  |         |

- From the beginning of September, students will self-quiz for 30 minutes each evening on the lines set in the homework grid, using the 'Look, Cover, Write, Check' method. Corrections must be in green pen. For two nights per week, students will read an appropriate text of their own choice (Reading for Pleasure) for 20 minutes minimum and then write a short summary (half a page, 10 minutes) in their self-quizzing books about what they have read. Students may use the list of questions and sentence starters that they are issued as part of their Knowledge Organisers, to help structure their summary. There is a suggested reading list on the academy website. Students will complete a Maths drill sheet and hand it to their maths teacher per week.
- From the beginning of October, students will complete Tassomai online homework. They are expected to achieve 30 questions answered correctly, per subject, per week (this would mean 90 correct answers per week).

In tutor time, students will experience a variety of different activities on a weekly rotation, to further prepare them for excellent outcomes and opportunities in life beyond the academy. These include:

- [Personal Development Curriculum](#)
- British Values Workshops
- DEAR (Drop Everything and Read)
- Literacy and Numeracy Development Tasks
- Assemblies
- Competition and Community Activities

As part of our induction programme, we aim to ensure that we understand as much as possible about the current cognitive levels of our students. Week beginning Monday 12th September, students will sit three baseline tests (GL CAT4 Cognitive Ability Tests) and one New Group Reading/Spelling Test (NGR/ST):

- For students that study French as a language, their assessment day will be on Monday 7th September.
- For students that study Spanish as a language, their assessment day will be on Tuesday 13th September.
- Students will be allocated a room as a tutor group and fully supported by members of staff throughout the day.

This information will assist us in planning for all students. We wish to reassure you that students should not worry about taking these assessments. There is no need to revise and no need to seek any additional tuition. Students are encouraged to take these assessments seriously on the day as the outcomes will assist in the identification of those students who require intervention, SEND provision, subject setting, GCSE options and establishing targets for the end of Key Stage 4. This is a process that will help us best support each student and ensure their needs are fully met. You will soon receive another letter that maps out the whole assessment calendar for Year 7.

On Thursday 15th September, we will be hosting our Year 7 'Expectations Evening'. Important information will be presented, so we strongly encourage you to attend with your child. The purpose of the evening will be to introduce you to Ms Ullah (Principal), your child's Head of House, our Phoenix Team and other key senior members of staff, to share our expectations. To ensure we meet health and safety requirements, we have decided to split the evening into two sessions:

- 6.00pm-6.45pm: For those that have a child's surname beginning with the letter A-M
- 6.45pm-7.30pm: For those that have a child's surname beginning with the letter N-Z

The evening will begin promptly at your allocated time listed above. Please arrive at least 15 minutes beforehand and ensure that you have signed in on arrival at the Student Reception. There will be a number of our Sixth Form student leaders and Senior Leadership Team to support you on arrival.

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your on-going support at home. To have both families and the academy working so closely together will significantly enhance the positive experience we are able to offer our students.

Yours sincerely,

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

Mr C Buller  
Assistant Principal