

Westbourne Academy

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Principal - Mr Garry Trott

Our ref: GTR/EPE

12th September 2016



Dear Parent/Carer

A warm welcome to a new academic year here at Westbourne Academy. I hope you all had an enjoyable summer holiday and enjoyed the reasonably good weather.

Over the summer we had some fantastic GCSE results, which show a significant improvement across the academy. Twelve subject areas celebrated increases in students gaining grades A*-C of over 10%, with maths achieving 72% A*-C, an improvement of 14% from 2015. Progress in Maths is now above national expectations and English is very close.

I would like to thank the vast majority of you who have supported the high standards we expect in terms of uniform, behaviour for learning and attendance. We have been very impressed by the smart appearance of most students as they arrive for school in the mornings. Our pastoral staff will be in touch with parents if trousers and shoes do not meet our uniform requirements and expectations.

This term we are fortunate to welcome a range of new staff to the academy, who are well qualified and will make a significant contribution towards our continued improvement.

• Mr Anthony Dalton	Teacher of Geography
• Miss Holly Davies	Teacher of Design and Technology
• Mr Aaron Durrant	Teaching Assistant
• Miss Kat Froede	Assistant Team Leader English
• Miss Catherine Hopper	Teacher of Maths
• Miss Patricia Mbangui	Teacher of Science
• Miss Annie McGee	Teacher of Science
• Mrs Monica Romero	Teacher of Languages
• Miss Marta Ruiz	Teacher of Languages
• Mr Paul Strutt	Teacher of Health & Social Care/PSHE Coordinator
• Miss Ciara Sutton	Teacher of English
• Miss Tolia Wiltz	Teacher of Drama

As an academy we continually monitor and review our processes and systems and we like to keep developing and tweaking them each term. The standard of behaviour in class and around the academy has improved considerably over the last two years, although there can still be too much low level disruption in lessons on occasion. This term we will be operating a new system to address this issue further:

1. If your child is sent out of a lesson three times in a fortnight you will receive a call from their tutor.
2. If you child is sent out between four and six times in a fortnight you will receive a call from their Head/ Assistant Head of House.
3. If your child is sent out more than seven times in a fortnight, you will be asked to attend an academy based meeting with myself.

Communication

If you have changed your home/work/mobile telephone numbers or home address over the summer break, please do contact us on 01473-466161 or 466148 so we can update your details. It is essential that we are



able to contact you in the event your child fails to arrive at school for any reason, feels unwell or suffers an injury whilst attending after school activities. Your child's subject teachers, form tutors and Head of House may also need to contact you from time to time and we use mobile numbers to send automated text messages about parent evenings, school trips and such like.

Calendar Dates

I wanted to take this opportunity to outline some of the events/evenings that are taking place in the academy over the next half term:

Wednesday 21st September – 2015/2016 Academy Awards Evening

If your child is in current years 8 to 11 and receiving an award at this event, you will have been sent a separate letter of invitation.

Thursday 22nd September – Academy Photographs

The school photographers will be with us for the day and all students and staff will have their photograph taken for the school's information management system. Parents will have an opportunity to purchase photographs themselves when proofs are sent home with students.

w/c Monday 26th September – Y11 Parent/Tutor Meetings

Parents and students in year 11 will be invited to meet with Form Tutors to discuss GCSE progress and the Progress Review Exams which take place in November.

Thursday 6th October – Open Evening

Parents and pupils who are looking to transfer to high school in September 2017, will have an opportunity to look around the academy and talk with subject teachers and student ambassadors on the evening of Thursday 6th October.

School place applications for the normal year of entry are dealt with through Suffolk County Council's Admissions Team (0345-600-0981). The closing date for current year 6 applications for year 7 is 31st October 2016.

Transition days for pupils in current year 6 who are offered a place at the academy are Wednesday 5th and Thursday 6th July 2017.

w/c Monday 17th October – Y7 Parent/Tutor Meetings

Parents and students in year 7 will be invited to meet with Form Tutors to discuss how their child has settled into the academy.

Monday 24th – Friday 28th October – Half Term Holiday

The academy is closed for a week at half term. Please note that Monday 31st October is a staff training day and the academy is closed to students. Students return on Tuesday 1st November 2016.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require more information. There is a wealth of information available on our academy website, including details of the new autumn Food Hall menus, the extra-curricular clubs and activities on offer to students, our shared calendar and safeguarding contact details. To receive regular updates and announcements, you can follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

We look forward to a positive half term.

Yours sincerely



Garry Trott
Principal