

DW/CC

14 December 2015

Dear Parent/Carer

This has been a difficult term for everyone in relation to the tragic accident which resulted in the loss of Thomas and Ashley Isle. Our students, staff and the community have pulled together to support Mr Isle, his extended family and Thomas and Ashley's friends. We are extremely proud of the resilience shown and would ask you all to think about their family and friends at this time.

I have pleasure in enclosing a copy of the academy's newly styled Newsletter and hope that you enjoy reading it.

Due to buses, the academy will close at 12.30pm on Friday the 18 December 2015. Students will have the opportunity to have lunch prior to leaving the school site. The academy will re-open on Monday 4 January 2016.

Friday the 18 December will be 'Wear a Christmas Jumper Day'. Students and staff will be able to wear a Christmas Jumper and non-uniform for a donation of £1. Proceeds from this will go to charity.

YEAR 9 PARENTS' EVENING

This evening will take place on Thursday 14 January 2016. Please can we ask that parents make appointments to meet their child's subject teachers.

YEAR 10 PARENTS' EVENING

This evening will take place on Thursday 28 January 2016, further details will be circulated in January.

YEAR 11 PARENTS' EVENING

This evening will take place on Thursday 18 February 2016, further details will be circulated in due course.

Y11 MOCK EXAMINATIONS

Year 11 students will sit mock examinations during the first two weeks in January. These will be held in strict examination conditions. Please can we ask for parents/carers support in ensuring that their children are fully prepared for the examinations.

ACADEMY EXPECTATIONS

Assemblies have been held with all year groups to reiterate and set out the academy's expectations for its students. Our students have been given reminders about the academy's uniform policies and, in particular, with regard to footwear. Over the last term, there has been an increase in students wearing trainers and Firetrap trainer like footwear. Please note that with effect from Monday 4 January 2016, students will only be allowed to wear **plain black school shoes. Firetrap trainers/trainers will not be allowed.**

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If they do arrive in incorrect footwear, they will be issued with academy shoes for the day. Students travelling to school in boots during the winter months should bring a pair of school shoes to change into during the day.

Mobile phones are increasingly becoming an issue in school for us. If students are seen with their mobile phones, these will be taken from them and kept until the end of the day.

In order for parents/carers to assist us with regard to our expectations, uniform requirements are set out below.

UNIFORM

All students should be in academy uniform, as listed below, at all times:

- Academy Blazer
- Academy Tie
- White school shirt
- Black trousers/skirt
- Plain black shoes
- Plain black V neck jumper (optional)

If a student arrives at school without the correct uniform, they will be given a slip by their form tutor that allows them to go to student reception and, where possible, borrow the item that is missing or incorrect.

All non-uniform items e.g. cardigans, hooded tops, scarves etc. have to be removed once students arrive in the academy. All students now have access to a locker, therefore, it is possible to lock items of clothing away for the day.

Please can you support us by ensuring that your son/daughter wears the correct uniform. All of the academy's uniform can be purchased from Cliffs of Doncaster, however, we have arranged to have ties available to be purchased from our Finance Office at a cost of £5.

PE KIT

All students should bring their PE kit to school with them on the appropriate day; if a student arrives without his/her kit, he/she will be required to report directly to PE and borrow whatever items are missing, including trainers.

All students now have access to a locker, therefore, it is possible for them to leave items of PE kit locked away during the week; they can then take their kit home at the weekend for washing.

EQUIPMENT

All students should arrive at the academy ready to learn, this includes bringing the right equipment. The minimum requirement for equipment is:

- Bag
- Pencil case containing 2 pens, pencil, pencil sharpener, ruler, rubber
- Planner

ATTENDANCE

Enclosed is a copy of your child's attendance certificate. If you have any queries, please contact our Attendance Office who will be happy to help you.

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 4 January 2016	Academy re-opens after the Christmas Holiday
Thursday 14 January 2016 3.30pm to 6.30pm	Year 9 Parents' Evening
Thursday 28 January 2016 3.30pm to 6.30pm	Year 10 Parents' Evening
Thursday 28 January 2016 7pm	Presentation Evening
Friday 5 February 2016	Academy closes for the Spring half term holiday
Monday 15 February 2016	Academy re-opens after the Spring half term holiday
Thursday 18 February 2016	Year 11 Parents' Evening
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 24, 25, 26 February 2016	Academy Production of High School Musical
Thursday 25 February 2016	Year 8 Parents' Evening
Thursday 10 March 2016 - 6pm	Year 8 Options Evening
Friday 18 March 2016	Academy closes for the Easter Holidays

ALUMNI

We are currently looking to build up an alumni network for the academy with the help of the education charity Future First. We would like to get in touch with as many of the former students of Ash Hill Academy, Hatfield Visual Arts College and Hatfield High School as possible.

By joining you will get regular updates from us, be told about any exciting opportunities that are coming up, and be invited back to attend events and possibly even reunions. In return, we would love to use your expertise to support the current generation of Ash Hill Academy students. Maybe you could come back and share your advice and experiences, mentor students, offer work experience, or even become a member of the EAB.

If you would like to join (we hope you will) all you need to do is follow the link below and fill out a short form. We promise you will not be bombarded with emails, just a few throughout the year, and it is totally free.

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We want to get back in touch with as many former students as we can, so please do share the link with anyone you are still in touch with.

You can register by visiting <http://networks.futurefirst.org.uk/former-student/ashhill>

FUND RAISING

The academy has raised £1,500 in the memory of Thomas and Ashley Isle. After the Christmas and New Year break, we will discuss where Mr Isle would like the money to go to. I would like to thank all parents, students and staff with the support for this.

May I take this opportunity of wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Yours faithfully

D. WILLIAMS
Principal