

INTHEKNOW

Friday, 30 September 2022

www.fairfax.bham.sch.uk

Attendance Matters

Well done to our students whose attendance has been high. A reminder that attendance should be 97% at least. Attendance improves achievement! Excellent attendance will be rewarded! Please support Fairfax in maintaining a high level.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

At Fairfax Academy we believe that excellent attendance and punctuality are the key to success. A missed school day is a lost opportunity to learn. Students who attend school regularly have been shown to achieve higher grades than students who do not have regular attendance.

ABSENCE

Children are required by law to attend school 190 days per year and the Government advise that students' attendance should be at least 95%. However, **95% attendance equates to 10 missed days of school**; a massive **50 lessons!** Research has shown that students missing 20 days of school performed a whole grade lower in their exams than similar ability students with good attendance.

PUNCTUALITY

Poor punctuality can have a significant impact on learning time. Across a school year, being **5 minutes late per day results in a loss of 3 days learning per year**. Being **15 minutes** late every day will result in **10 lost days**.

Our school day starts at 8.35am and students should be through the school gate at this time. Students that are late into school will be issued with sanctions in line with our academy Behaviour and Discipline Policy.

APPOINTMENTS

Wherever possible appointments should be made out of school time. We understand that at times appointments in the school day are unavoidable. Please provide evidence of the appointment in advance, so that we can amend our school records, and advise the school who will be collecting your child during the school day.

ATTENDANCE

At Fairfax Academy we are committed to challenging poor attendance. In cases where a student begins to develop a pattern of absence, the academy will advise the parents/carers that we require an improvement in attendance.

When attendance fails to improve, the school reluctantly takes the line that legal action has to be considered, and the Court Section in Birmingham becomes involved. So far this academic year, seven cases have been heard, and either a fixed penalty has been issued, or a court appearance has been determined as an appropriate course of action.

HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME

Please keep in mind the cost to your child's education should they miss school. Please do not book holidays in term time. Holidays in term time will not be authorised.

95% ATTENDANCE = 10 missed days = 50 lessons!	5 MINUTES LATE PER DAY = 3 lost days learning per year	AVOID BOOKING holidays in term time
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Attendance CSAWS

Please be reminded that CSAWS (Central School Attendance and Welfare Service) may conduct a home visit to any family whose child has not attended school and no valid reason has been provided.

Term Time Holiday Requests

A reminder notice: parents/carers are kindly reminded that Fairfax Academy cannot authorise holiday leave during term time. Please be advised doing so may result in penalty charges.

Parent/Carer Communication with Fairfax Academy

Please be reminded that the Academy has a limited number of phone lines; voice mail messages are checked regularly. We would ask that non-urgent enquiries be made by email to post@fairfax.fmat.co.uk. Please be advised that staff at Fairfax Academy will respond to queries within 48 hours.

Parental Conduct

Unfortunately, we have experienced from a minority of parents contacting Fairfax Academy, rudeness and aggression towards staff. Please be reminded that Fairfax employees have a right to be spoken to with courtesy and respect. Repeated aggressive behaviour may result in action being taken by Fairfax Academy. A copy of the Trust's Parent and Carer Code of Conduct is available on our website.

MY CHILD AT SCHOOL Parent App

Please be reminded that we have now moved over to a new school management system called Bromcom. This means that parents/carers will no longer be able to access current information on the SIMS Parent app.

A new parent app, 'My Child At School', will be launched as soon as we have fully completed the move. We are working hard to make this available for you to access this half term, and will continue to keep you updated on our progress towards the full launch.



In the meantime, if you wish to find out information regarding your child, please contact your child's Head of Year/Assistant Head of Year via email.

Head of Year 7	Mrs Rose	s.rose@fairfax.fmat.co.uk
Head of Year 8	Ms Ahmed-Lockley	s.ahmedlockley@fairfax.fmat.co.uk
Assistant Head of Year	Mr Rainbow	r.rainbow@fairfax.fmat.co.uk
Head of Year 9	Mrs Colbourne	j.colbourne@fairfax.fmat.co.uk
Head of Year 10	Miss Dowell	m.dowell@fairfax.fmat.co.uk
Assistant Head of Year	Mr Clark	g.clark@fairfax.fmat.co.uk
Head of Year 11	Mr Ravenscroft	c.ravenscroft@fairfax.fmat.co.uk
Assistant Head of Year	Mrs Barker	c.barker@fairfax.fmat.co.uk
Assistant Head of Sixth Form	Miss Gardner	j.gardner@fairfax.fmat.co.uk
SENDCO	Mrs Corbett	k.corbett@fairfax.fmat.co.uk
Assistant SENDCO	Miss Panesar	a.panesar@fairfax.fmat.co.uk

Open Evening

Thank you to all students who helped at our annual Open Evening last week. We have received an overwhelming number of positive comments from parents/carers and children.
#makingfairfaxproud

Opening Time and The Refectory Breakfast Provision

A reminder notice: The Refectory is open to students at 08:00 and snacks, breakfast pastries, hot and cold drinks will be available to purchase. **All other areas of the Academy are not open due to there being no supervision available.** Students are advised to plan their journey to school to arrive no earlier than 08:00, and students are allowed on site via Pedestrian Gate 3 on Fairfax Road, but **must** remain in The Refectory only until 08:20. Pedestrian Gate 1 on Reddicap Heath Road and Pedestrian Gate 2 on Fairfax Road both open at 08:20.

Parking – Fairfax Road

A kind request that parents/carers please be mindful of local residents when parking, and ensure residents' driveways are not blocked.

Standards Reminder

Punctuality A reminder notice: punctuality is a very important aspect of life. This is a key focus for Fairfax Academy as we prepare our students for the world of work, where there will be high expectations of attendance and punctuality. Registration begins at 08:30, and so we advise students to be in school no later than 08:25. Students who arrive later than 08:30 can expect to receive a same day after school detention for 30 minutes.

Hair A reminder notice: natural hair colours only. Extreme haircuts, including tramlines in haircuts or eyebrows, are not permitted.

Piercings A reminder notice: we allow one small stud in each ear – small hooped earrings are not permitted. Any other piercings are unacceptable and must be removed for school.

Nose Studs A reminder notice: nose studs are not allowed and must be removed for school.

Uniform A reminder notice: students who are unable to conform to our Uniform Policy will be provided with uniform to wear, until the issue can be rectified, and parents will be contacted about this if the need arises. We want our students to have the highest standards and this includes adhering to our Uniform Policy. We thank parents and carers very much for supporting our high expectations.

Equalities Group Meeting

A reminder notice: all students are invited to attend our second Equalities Group Meeting on Tuesday, 4 October 2022 15:00-16:00 in the Library. If your child is interested in getting involved please encourage them to attend or speak to Miss Gardner, Miss Williams or Mrs Williams.

PRIDE Meeting

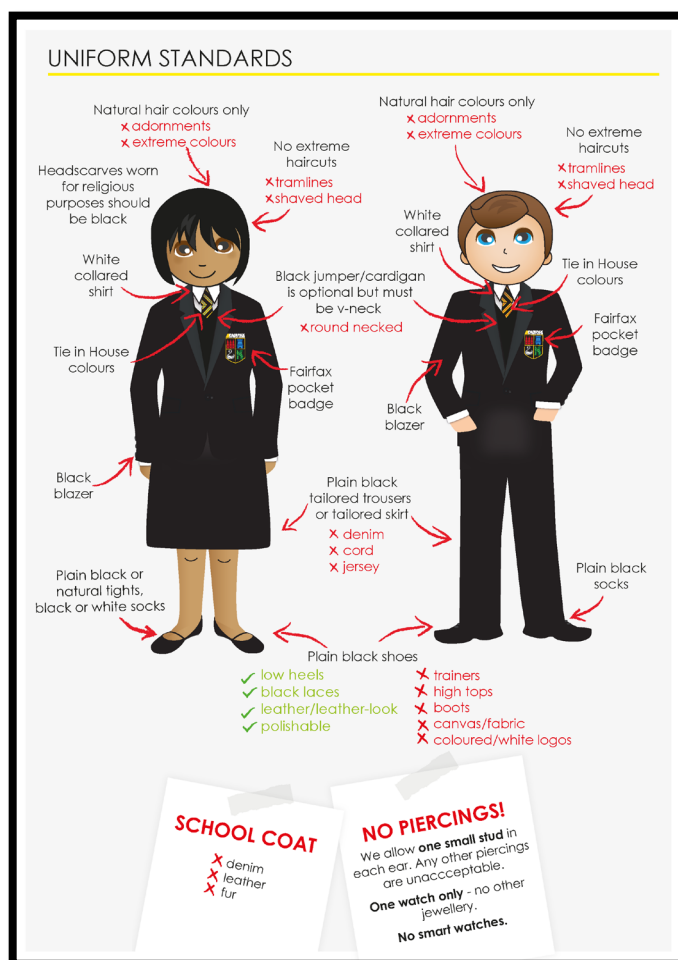
A reminder notice: all students are invited to attend our next PRIDE Meeting on Wednesday, 12 October 2022 15:00-16:00 in A24. If your child is interested in getting involved please encourage them to attend or speak to Mrs Lam or Mrs Williams.

School Council Meeting

A reminder notice: all students are invited to attend our next School Council Meeting on Thursday, 20 October 2022 15:00-16:00 in the Library. If your child is interested in getting involved please encourage them to attend or speak to Ms Lowell or Mrs Williams.

Peripatetic Music Lessons

We now have a number of spaces available for students who would like to enrol in peripatetic music lessons that take place during the school day. If your child is interested in vocal lessons or playing an instrument, please ask them to speak to Mrs Batey in Student Support or email post@fairfax.fmat.co.uk for further details.



YEAR 7

An updated notice: prior to the Year 7 Parent Information Evening, there is a 'new parent' PTFA welcome on Tuesday, 4 October from 17:30-18:00 in Reception. Please join us, email ff-ptfa@fairfax.fmat.co.uk to confirm your attendance.

A reminder notice: the Year 7 Parent Information Evening with House Tutors is on Tuesday, 4 October at 18:00 in the Hall.

An advance notice: the Redpoint visits are scheduled for w/b 17 October:

- Coventry House – Monday, 17 October
- Kenilworth House – Tuesday, 18 October
- Stratford House – Wednesday, 19 October
- Warwick House – Thursday, 20 October

Students are required to bring a packed lunch, wear trainers, casual trousers (not jeans) and a warm top. Please note students' clothes may get dusty/dirty. Students are reminded to meet in the Upper Refectory on the day of their House visit. Students not going on the visit will be in normal lessons.

A reminder notice: Year 7 students should be wearing shoes to school. Trainers such as Airforce 1s are not permitted.

To support students with Mathematics, all students in Year 7 have been set weekly revision on MyMaths; this will be monitored by Maths staff. Mathematics Revision Guides for Year 7 students will be available to order on ParentPay soon.

YEAR 8

A reminder notice: invited students have received a letter and information from Ms Ahmed-Lockley about the reward trip to Waterworld on Thursday, 13 October. The ParentPay deadline for this trip is Friday, 7 October 2022, and payment cannot be accepted after this date.

An advance notice: Year 8-13 Parents/Carers are invited for 'Coffee & Cake' with the Principal on Friday, 7 October 11:40-12:40. Please confirm your attendance by emailing post@fairfax.fmat.co.uk.

A reminder notice: from January 2023 **ALL** students in **ALL** year groups are expected to wear shoes to school. Trainers such as Airforce 1s are not permitted.

To support students with Mathematics, all students in Year 8 have been set weekly revision on MyMaths; this will be monitored by Maths staff. Mathematics Revision Guides for Year 8 students are available to order on ParentPay.

YEAR 9

An advance notice: Year 8-13 Parents/Carers are invited for 'Coffee & Cake' with the Principal on Friday, 7 October 11:40-12:40. Please confirm your attendance by emailing post@fairfax.fmat.co.uk.

A reminder notice: from January 2023 **ALL** students in **ALL** year groups are expected to wear shoes to school. Trainers such as Airforce 1s are not permitted.

To support students with Mathematics, all students in Year 9 have been set weekly revision on MyMaths; this will be monitored by Maths staff. Mathematics Revision Guides for Year 9 students are available to order on ParentPay.

YEAR 10

An advance notice: a Year 10 DofE Bronze Parent Information Meeting will take place on Tuesday, 4 October from 17:00-17:30 in the Hall, for all interested students and their parents/carers.

An advance notice: Year 8-13 Parents/Carers are invited for 'Coffee & Cake' with the Principal on Friday, 7 October 11:40-12:40. Please confirm your attendance by emailing post@fairfax.fmat.co.uk.

A reminder notice: from January 2023 **ALL** students in **ALL** year groups are expected to wear shoes to school. Trainers such as Airforce 1s are not permitted.

To support students with Mathematics, all students in Year 10 have been set weekly revision on MyMaths; this will be monitored by Maths staff. Mathematics Revision Guides for Year 10 students are available to order on ParentPay.

YEAR 11

An advance notice: Year 8-13 Parents/Carers are invited for 'Coffee & Cake' with the Principal on Friday, 7 October 11:40-12:40. Please confirm your attendance by emailing post@fairfax.fmat.co.uk.

A reminder notice: from January 2023 **ALL** students in **ALL** year groups are expected to wear shoes to school. Trainers such as Airforce 1s are not permitted.

A Mathematics notice: to support students with Mathematics, all students in Year 11 have been set weekly revision on MyMaths; this will be monitored by Maths staff. Mathematics Revision Guides for Year 11 students are available to order on ParentPay; topics checklists are also on Show My Homework. Students have been given past papers which are also available on our website. Details about revision sessions will soon be emailed, and if you would like your child to attend please contact the school.

YEAR 12

A reminder notice: the Senior Mathematics Challenge will take place on Tuesday, 4 October 2022 for A Level Mathematics students.

Thank you to all the parents/carers who attended our Year 12 Information Evening on Tuesday, 27 September. A PDF of the slides used in the presentation has been added to the Parent Information area on the Academy website.

A reminder notice: sixth formers should check their school email for correspondence from the Sixth Form team and Careers department. Please see Sixth Form supervisors if there are issues accessing Outlook.

An advance notice: Year 8-13 Parents/Carers are invited for 'Coffee & Cake' with the Principal on Friday, 7 October 11:40-12:40. Please confirm your attendance by emailing post@fairfax.fmat.co.uk.

A reminder notice: Year 12 Geography students have received a letter and information from Mrs Easton about the field trip to Blackpool on Friday, 14 October. The ParentPay deadline for this trip is Friday, 7 October 2022, and payment cannot be accepted after this date.

A reminder notice: from January 2023 **ALL** students in **ALL** year groups are expected to wear shoes to school. Trainers such as Airforce 1s are not permitted.

To support their studies, Year 12 Mathematics students have been set weekly revision on MyMaths; this will be monitored by Maths staff. Mathematics Revision Guides for Year 12 students are available to order on ParentPay.

A reminder notice: the Senior Mathematics Challenge will take place on Tuesday, 4 October 2022 for A Level Mathematics students.

A reminder notice: Year 13 Parents' Evening is on Wednesday, 5 October, 16:00 -18:30 and will take place in the Hall. Please be reminded that Fairfax uses an online booking system for Parents' Evening. Information about how to log on and book appointments has been sent this week. Bookings open on Monday, 3 October at 18:00. If you have any concerns or queries about parents' evening please email ff-parentsevening@fairfax.fmat.co.uk.

Thank you to all the parents/carers who attended our Year 13 Information Evening on Tuesday, 27 September. A PDF of the slides used in the presentation has been added to the Parent Information area on the Academy website.

A reminder notice: sixth formers should check their school email for correspondence from the Sixth Form team and Careers department. Please see Sixth Form supervisors if there are issues accessing Outlook.

A reminder notice: UCAS Personal statements should be given to Ms Gray or Miss Gardner for checking and can be given to the Sixth Form supervisors to be passed on. The school deadline for early entry UCAS applications for those applying to Oxford, Cambridge, and Medicine and Veterinary Science courses is Friday, 7 October.

An advance notice: Year 8-13 Parents/Carers are invited for 'Coffee & Cake' with the Principal on Friday, 7 October 11:40-12:40. Please confirm your attendance by emailing post@fairfax.fmat.co.uk.

A careers notice: Year 13 students will have the opportunity to attend 'Mock Interviews' on Friday, 14 October 2022. Please see Mrs Knowles, Careers Advisor, in the library for more details.

At Fairfax, we offer the 16-19 bursary and if you think you qualify for the bursary, please download the attached documents and return to the sixth form by the deadline date of 14 October 2022. <http://www.fairfax.bham.sch.uk/academy-life/sixth-form/financial-support/>

A reminder notice: from January 2023 **ALL** students in **ALL** year groups are expected to wear shoes to school. Trainers such as Airforce 1s are not permitted.

To support their studies, Year 13 Mathematics students have been set weekly revision on MyMaths; this will be monitored by Maths staff. Mathematics Revision Guides for Year 12 students are available to order on ParentPay. Year 13 Mathematics students also have revision sessions; details of these have been previously emailed.

Coffee AND Cake

with the Principal

Friday, 7 October
11.40am to 12.40pm

Please confirm your attendance to
post@fairfax.fmat.co.uk

 **FAIRFAX**
SINCERITAS LABORIS

Any donations will be given to

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