

INTHEKNOW

Friday, 10 February 2023

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Respect Matters Focus Week

An advance note: w/b 27 February 2023 is Respect Matters Week. Virtual assemblies and tutor time activities will focus on 'respect' and 'being respectful'. #berespectful

Attendance Matters

Well done to our students whose attendance has been high since January. 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. Please contact the Academy before 08:00 each day of absence.

Attendance Office

Please be reminded that you can contact the attendance office and Attendance Manager – Miss J O'Connor via email: ff-attendance@fairfax.fmat.co.uk.

Attendance CSAWS


Please be reminded that CSAWS (Central School Attendance and Welfare Service) may conduct a home visit if your child is absent and their attendance is a concern.

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.

Detentions

A polite reminder that schools and academies have the right to detain students for breaches of the School Behaviour Policy. Schools do not have to give parents/carers notice of after-school detentions or tell them why a detention has been given. As a courtesy, Fairfax will send a text message to inform you by 14:30 each day. More information can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/school-discipline-exclusions/discipline>.



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. In previous academic years, 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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Local Community – Litter Dropping

A reminder notice: students are reminded to be respectful of their local community and environment and not drop litter either inside or outside the Academy. The Academy has received complaints from local residence with regard to litter dropping.

Anti-bullying Policy

A reminder notice: Fairfax does not tolerate any form of bullying, and will act to support anyone in our community who experiences bullying; the 'bully' will also receive intervention support. Please tell someone if you or someone you know is experiencing bullying. Please contact your child's Assistant Head of Year or Head of Year if you have any concerns.

To support our strong stance on anti-bullying, all students received their second anti-bullying assembly of the year during assemblies last week. Throughout the year, we will continue to raise awareness through assemblies, tutor time and guidance lessons to ensure that Fairfax is a safe place to be for all students.



PTFA Meeting

An advance notice: there will be a PTFA virtual meeting on Monday, 27 February 2023. To confirm your attendance and receive a link to join the meeting, please email ff-ptfa@fairfax.fmat.co.uk.

Fairfax PFTA

A reminder notice: there will be a Surprise 'Prize' Bingo PTFA event on Thursday, 9 March 2023 from 19:00. Tickets are available on ParentPay at £12.50 per person. The ticket price includes a curry, rice and naan meal and your three bingo sheets for the evening. World Challenge students will be selling 'Sweet Treats' for dessert on the evening. We hope many parents/carers will support this fundraising event for the students at Fairfax. Please email ff-ptfa@fairfax.fmat.co.uk with any queries.

PTFA Easter Raffle

An advance notice: there will be a PTFA Easter Raffle w/b 27 March 2023. Prize donations for prizes are welcomed, please email ff-ptfa@fairfax.fmat.co.uk for details.

Equalities Group Meeting

A reminder notice: all students are invited to attend the Equalities Group Meetings each Thursday lunchtime in C7. If your child is interested in getting involved please encourage them to attend or speak to Miss Gardner or Mrs Williams.

School Council Meeting

A reminder notice: all students are invited to attend our next School Council Meeting on Thursday, 16 February 2023 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.

Forward Thinking Birmingham Sleep Hygiene Session

Please be reminded that a session on Sleep Hygiene will take place on Thursday, 16 February 2023.

YEAR 7

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

A reminder notice: Year 7 Parents' Evening is on the new date of Wednesday, 22 March 2023, 15:45 -18:45. Please be advised that Fairfax uses an online booking system for Parents' Evening. Information about how

YEAR 8

to log on and book appointments will be sent to parents/carers w/b Monday, 13 March 2023. If you have any queries about Parents' Evening please email ff-parentsevening@fairfax.fmat.co.uk.

A reminder notice: Year 8 students should be wearing shoes to school. Trainers such as Airforce 1s are not permitted.

A reminder notice: Year 8 Parents' Evening is on the new date of Wednesday, 8 March 2023, 15:45 -18:45. Please be advised that Fairfax uses an online booking system for Parents' Evening. Information about how to log on and book appointments will be sent to parents/carers w/b Monday, 27 February 2023. If you have any queries about Parents' Evening please email ff-parentsevening@fairfax.fmat.co.uk.

YEAR 9

A reminder notice: Year 9 students should be wearing shoes to school. Trainers such as Airforce 1s are not permitted.

A reminder notice: the 2023 Online Application Form links have been emailed to parents/carers. The deadline for applications is Friday, 17 February 2023.

YEAR 10

A reminder notice: Year 10 students should be wearing shoes to school. Trainers such as Airforce 1s are not permitted.

A reminder notice: Year 10 Mid-Year Assessments in English and Mathematics will take place from Thursday, 16 February until Friday, 17 February 2023. Students will sit an additional assessment in Philosophy & Ethics during their period 1 lesson on Wednesday, 15 February. Students will receive an individual timetable in tutor time next week which provides information on exact timings, exam venue and seat number for each assessment. Replacement timetables will be available on request from the Examinations Office.

YEAR 11

A reminder notice: Year 11 students should be wearing shoes to school. Trainers such as Airforce 1s are not permitted.

A reminder notice: the 2023 Sixth Form Online Application Form is live on our Academy website. The deadline for applications is Friday, 17 February 2023. Please visit www.fairfax.bham.sch.uk/academy-life/sixth-form.

A reminder notice: the Year 11 Mock Examination Period commences on Monday, 27 February 2023. All information is available on our website. Students will receive a personalised timetable w/b 13 February 2023.

A reminder notice: the Year 11 Prom date and venue has now been confirmed as Thursday, 29 June 2023, 19:00-22:00 at the SnowDome.

YEAR 12

A reminder notice: Year 12 students should be wearing shoes to school. Trainers such as Airforce 1s are not permitted.

An advance notice: from Monday, 27 February, there will be a change to the detention policy for sixth former students. If a student receives a same-day detention on a day where they have private study period 5, the private study session is cancelled, and they are to attend the detention at 14:00 in the Sixth Form workroom. Students will be expected to complete independent study during their detention. This only applies to students in private study period 5. All other students would be expected to attend their detention after school.

A reminder notice: Y12 Work Experience 19-23 June 2023 – students have received a login for the SIPS Education's business database to search for possible placements and should be actively seeking their work placement for June. The work placement form is due by Friday, 31 March. All queries should be directed to WEX@fairfax.fmat.co.uk, and students can speak with Miss Davies in the Sixth Form Centre.

A reminder notice: Year 13 students should be wearing shoes to school. Trainers such as Airforce 1s are not permitted.

An advance notice: from Monday, 27 February, there will be a change to the detention policy for sixth former students. If a student receives a same-day detention on a day where they have private study period 5, the private study session is cancelled, and they are to attend the detention at 14:00 in the Sixth Form workroom. Students will be expected to complete independent study during their detention. This only applies to students in private study period 5. All other students would be expected to attend their detention after school.

An advance notice: we are delighted to be taking part in the Sutton Schools' Debating Competition at The Arthur Terry School on Thursday, 17 March at 18:00. Support of our team is always welcome, and we look forward to seeing our debating team in action.

A reminder notice: the Year 13 Prom date and venue has now been confirmed as Thursday, 29 June 2022, 19:30-22:30 at Lea Marston Hotel & Spa.