

Belong. Believe. Be Proud.

The King Alfred School *An Academy*

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Principal: Mr Dan Milford



Ref: DM/SAH

25th September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

I write to you in the middle of a very busy, but rewarding first term of this academic year. It has been a pleasure welcoming all students back following the summer break, but in particular, our Year 7s. I have to say they have all started so well and have really impressed all the staff in school with their attitude, work ethic and engagement. It has been great to see them settling into school and the new routines so well. It is a very big step moving from primary school to secondary school, but from what we have seen, the year 7s have 'picked up the baton and run with it' and are relishing the new opportunities that TKASA affords. We are immensely proud of our school and our students who strive to get it right every day.

Attendance

A big focus for this year is school attendance, led by Miss Bullock, one of our Assistant Principals. Whilst we appreciate that pupil attendance is a national issue, we do not want to fall into the trap of accepting poor attendance from students here at TKASA. We know that learning happens in the classroom, reinforced with homework, and if students are not in the classroom, then they cannot make the required progress academically. Please encourage your child to come into school unless they are genuinely ill or there is another emergency situation which means they cannot attend. As I have stated before we would much rather you send your child into school in the morning even if they feel slightly poorly so that they can go to a few lessons and if need be we send them home if they feel ill during the day. Half a day at school is better than a day at home!

Can I remind all parents that we have a two week half term holiday approaching in October, where holidays may be cheaper than during term time.

Uniform

This term we have had a real focus on uniform to ensure all of our students are dressed appropriately according to the dress code. Obviously, the vast majority of students are perfectly well presented every day and we thank you for your support of the school in upholding these high standards ensuring your child is smart.

In addition, we are moving to an online supplier for our school uniform. Please note that as from 1st October 2023, NK Sports will no longer be our uniform supplier. Our new supplier is Price and Buckland - <https://price-buckland.co.uk/>

Parent Forums

At our recent Parent Information Evenings, I mentioned our Parent Forums for 2023-24.

Parent voice is very important to us and so we will continue to hold our parent forums this year. We are mindful that parents are very busy and so we are moving to Parent Forums being 3 x per year. If you are interested in being part of our parent forum please email us on parentsforum@tkasa.theplt.org.uk.

School Updates

We are holding a careers fayre on Tuesday 3rd October, starting at 5 pm with a quiet time for SEN and high anxiety students, and 5.30 pm for anyone else. There will be a range of businesses on site to chat to with a parent information talk at 6 pm.

Our P6 provision and after school clubs continue this year, for more information please see our website under our Extra Curricular tab.

Site updates over the summer have included refurbishment of the lecture theatre, modernisation of two Science labs, outdoor paved eating area outside our canteen, new signage around school and the creation of a Sensory Garden

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and additional outdoor raised flower bed areas. We hope that all students are benefitting from the improved environment as we continue to ensure we are providing a school site which both staff and students can be proud of.

Email Addresses

Over the summer, we have moved to new email addresses for all staff. Please note that if you email a member of staff to their old email address, that this will be redirected and the member of staff will receive the email. If you have a general enquiry you can email us on info@tkasa.theplt.org.uk alternatively you can contact Student Services via the weduc app, or phone into reception on the usual number.

As always, thank you for your continued support to the school and we look forward to another year in school.

Yours faithfully



Dan Milford
Principal