

Open Academy Update 20 January 2023

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

Welcome to this week's newsletter.

This week I would like to thank the few hardy souls who braved a pretty foul night to come out to our first parent engagement event. Although not the largest of crowds, there was some very helpful feedback for the academy and it was good to have the opportunity to share the key messages from Ofsted in more detail and to explain what we have been doing to improve. I am including below a key summary of the challenges and our actions for those of you who could not make it. It is hard to boil things down but in essence the summary below hopefully captures what Ofsted said and **what we have done and are doing in response:**

- Leaders urgently need to ensure all safeguarding records are accurate and that effective and prompt help is given to those pupils who need it.

Added capacity – 4 new DSLs plus a full-time assistant safeguarding officer and two full time safeguarding administrators. Introduced a new safeguarding triage and monitoring system. Leaders conduct monthly checks, as do governors and trust. All outstanding case files reviewed and corrected/completed where required.

- Leaders need to ensure that staff are sufficiently trained and guided to support pupils with SEND effectively.

We have continued re-classifying SEND as per LA direction – ALL SEND students will have a full completed INDES (individual needs descriptor) by half term. All therefore, have plans accessible to teachers via Classcharts. Over a quarter of SEND pupils also now have a pupil passport, for direct communication with their teachers.

- Leaders should raise expectations and assist staff to ensure they are effectively supporting all pupils to improve their behaviour, which in turn will help pupils access their learning more successfully.

Training focussed on trauma informed responses, de-escalation and support. Leaders have developed a new behaviour handbook, which clarifies our approach and we have started working through key campaigns. Recently the uniform campaign has been most successful and we are about to focus on in school truancy.

- Leaders should ensure that staff have high expectations and are well trained in a variety of assessment strategies that allow them to identify where pupils need further support to learn effectively.

Training has been delivered at the start of the year and as required through departments. All areas now use assessment folders as an effective vehicle for dialogue with the students on how they are getting on and their next steps. We are now using automated assessment and processing them to give personal learning charts for students in all areas (first round being completed now) so all know their strengths and areas to develop individually and teachers know individuals and groups strengths.

In the spirit of the third area for improvement, from next week we will be targeting truancy. Anyone out of lessons without permission will be in truancy reflection with senior staff for the rest of the day. We hope you will be as supportive over this measure as you have been regarding our successful uniform push of the last few weeks.

And finally, a reminder of the next parent partnership event on Tuesday, 31 January 2023 (5.00-6.00pm) and we will focus on effective revision and exam prep – a parent's guide (Years 9/10/11).

Jon Ford
Principal

1. Parents' Evening

As an academy we will continue with online parents' evenings for the short term. Please see attached instructions to help with making appointments and using Microsoft Teams on the evening itself.

Mr Fisher
Assistant Principal

2. Safeguarding

The Clic is a new free online resource for parents and students to help them access online mental health support:

<https://parentinghub.clic-uk.org/>

Mr Davis
Safeguarding Officer

3. Year 7

Another great week for our Year 7s, it's so good to see them working hard in their lessons and attending extra-curricular opportunities such as netball, music lessons and Hub.

With the cold spell, some students are wanting to wear socks over their tights, just to confirm with parents that students are able to wear black socks only over their tights to keep them warm – any other colours and students will be asked to remove them. Also, leggings are not permitted; students should be in skirts or trousers only.

A big congratulations to the Year 7 Netball team who travelled to North Walsham this week and played really well against a tough opposition. Please see a message from Miss Trail & Mrs Pearsall:

A massive well done to the 14 students who travelled to North Walsham high school to compete in a Year 7 netball tournament on Thursday. All the students were brilliant and showed great team work, resilience and enthusiasm! Both teams came away from the tournament with a win! Congratulations to all the students!



Our top LEARNT point achievers this week are:

Samuel R	31
Kara M	23
Charlee-Mae M	23
Jake S	23
Angel G	21
Liam M	21

We have had to speak to a few students this week about 'play fighting' on their way to and from lessons. This is not appropriate within the school and students will receive sanctions for doing this. We would be grateful if parents could remind their child that they need to move sensibly around the academy.

Mrs Clayton (Head of Year 7)

Mr Hawkins (Assistant Head of Year 7)

4. Year 9

Well done for all of your hard work and commitment this week. There has been lots of good learning, positive engagement, teamwork and collaboration.

Your teachers have given special mentions this week for the following:

Jayden A, Lola B, Georgia B, Latifa C, Marnie C, Zac D, Luke E, Madison G, Max L, Jacob M, Lily-Anna N, Queenie-Rose N, Tyler P and Kian W for their work on probability. Students made dice and spinners to carry out probability investigations – Mrs Marsham, Maths;

Layla D, Luke E, Thomas H, Jacob M, and Ben N for their enthusiasm and engagement in our study of the Second World War and for their effort in considering complex questions on the usefulness and reliability of sources. Brandon P for his continued improvement in effort and focus in lessons – Mr Crawford, History;

Liam K for composing and writing an excellent letter of complaint to the Prime Minister – Mr Edwards, English;

Praise for great logical thinking in German for Thomas – Mrs McEvoy, Modern Foreign Languages;

Some great contributions in drama from Tyler H, Areen and Hallie C this week, along with some lovely characterisation from Layla D and Leah S. Well done – Mrs Ormosi, Drama.

Enjoy your weekend, and we look forward to seeing you again next week.

Mr Crawford and Ms Whitwood (Heads of Year)

Mrs Lamb (Assistant Head of Year)

5. Year 10

Learnt points: The current tally for this week is:

- RPH – 44
- NST – 34
- AED – 45
- ABL – 36

Attendance: Current attendance for Year 9 is 91.34%. A small decrease of 0.93% from last week. If not in school please send in evidence (this could be a photograph of the medicine given).

Late to learning: This week 23 Year 10 students have truanted lessons or turned up excessively late to their learning. Well done to the 84 students who have continued to access all the learning available to them at Open.

Uniform: Although the vast majority are getting this right we need to ensure that all are. Please can you ensure that your son/daughter leaves for school in the full correct uniform. Thank you again for your support in this and again the vast majority are fantastic.

Updates: From Monday the whole school is doing a big push on those students who either truant a whole lesson or are excessively late to one. If this is the case next week students will be escorted to a room with a member of the senior leadership team for the rest of the day. Also, if any student who has a truancy detention tonight fails to turn up, they will also have a day in this room. There will be work available for student to complete, so they will not miss out on any learning.

Fantastic Students: After a few wobbles with PPEs earlier in the week, the year group has been excelling themselves in their focused attitude to these important trial exams.

We are at the end of the first week of PPEs for Year 10 with just one more week to go. Things kick off on Monday with geography and history in the morning, followed by religious studies and BTEC sport and ending with German in the afternoon. A busy day for our fantastic group of dedicated students. It is only with the joint support of school and home that we can hope to continue to support all learners in their journey to greatness. Thank you for your support from home, it really shows in the students' day to day at Open.

Mr Pickup (Head of Year 10)
Mrs Smith (Assistant Head of Year 10)

6. Year 11

Our top achievers this week are: Torri A, Isabel B, Josh C, Jake F, Ryan H, Lisa K, Erin O, Sean P, Harry R, Torri A, Zac D, Rose W, Isaac N, Bryn N, Isla G, James H and Hannah J. Well done to you all.

We would like to reiterate the importance of attendance in Year 11 especially with only approximately 65 school days before exams start (exam schedules will be confirmed after February half term).

Data shows that students with 95%+ attendance average means their GCSE grade is 1.1 grade higher for each subject.

We appreciate the stress the students are under at the moment but we have had an increase in students wanting to go home. We will encourage them to stay in school as much as possible and hopefully their resilience will improve. Mrs Roe will contact you if they are really poorly. Please try and arrange appointments for holidays/evenings. Also, students' lateness to school and lessons has increased this week and this does need to improve.

We held our first exam anxiety drop in session on Monday and there will be others for the next couple of Mondays and Fridays at lunchtime. Some students have signed up to the exam stress workshop too.

English hub has been cancelled on Tuesday, 24 January.

Hoodies

Remember we have the leavers' hoodie online shop and details are given below. The process is that you can log onto the site and choose name, size, colour yourselves and pay directly and then hoodies will all be delivered in a bulk order in May/June.

Please click on the link below and any questions please give us a call. The online shop is open until 3 February 2023 to take advantage of the lower price.

A hoodie will cost £21.20 based on a minimum of 71 hoodies ordered. If you require a nickname on the back then this would be an extra £4.95.

Please click on this link to go to your login page:

<https://www.schoolleaverscompany.co.uk/leavers-hoodies-login> .

Or alternatively go to their website and click on “Login” at the top of their home page.

Your login details are as follows:

USERNAME: SL61497

PASSWORD: 61497open

Prom is booked for Friday, 30 June 2023.

Mr Lambert (Head of Year)

Mrs Roe (Assistant Head of Year)

7. Football Kits



The poster features the Open Academy logo at the top, with two megaphones on either side. The main text reads 'We Are Looking For SPONSORSHIP'. Below this, it states 'THE PE DEPARTMENT ARE LOOKING FOR A BUSINESS TO GO ONTO THE STUDENTS' BRAND NEW FOOTBALL FIXTURE KIT.' A list of inclusions follows, and a contact box is provided at the bottom. A football kit is shown in the bottom right corner.

open academy
We Are
Looking For
SPONSORSHIP

THE PE DEPARTMENT ARE LOOKING FOR A
BUSINESS TO GO ONTO THE STUDENTS' BRAND
NEW FOOTBALL FIXTURE KIT.

This will include:

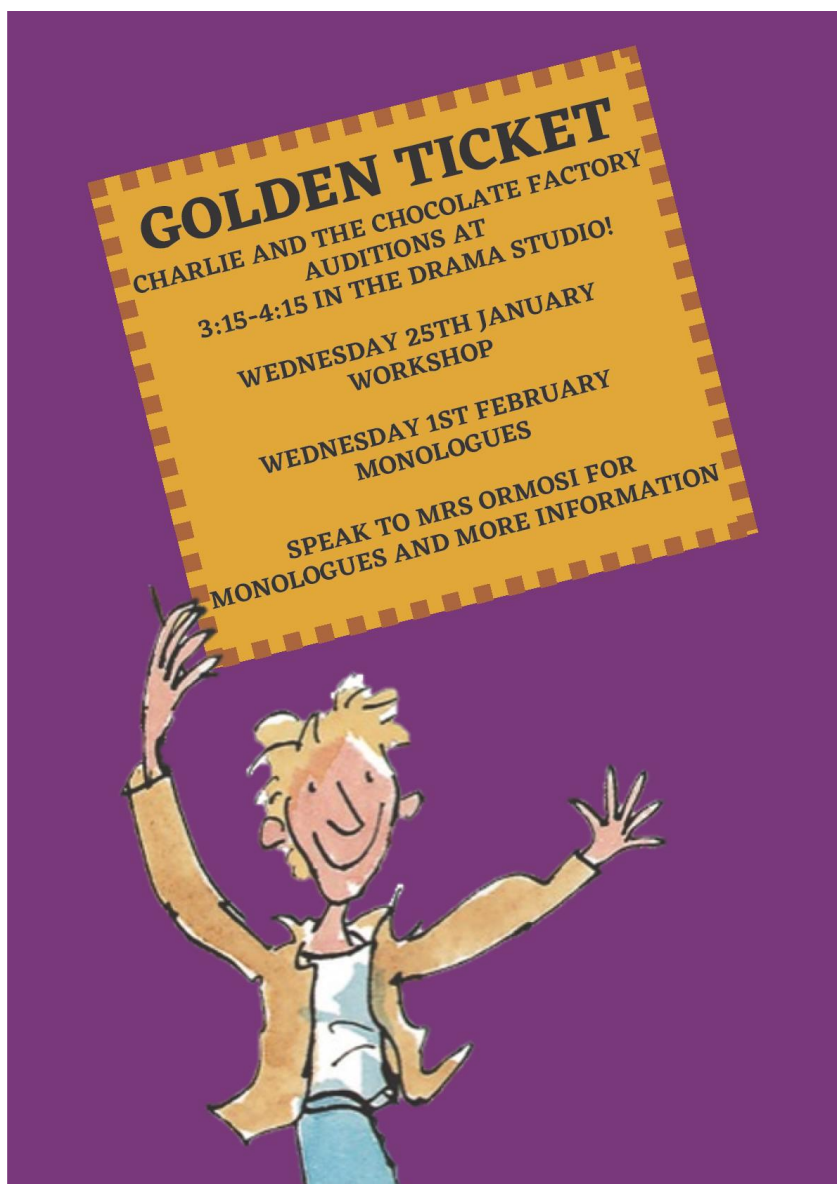
- Your business logo on all boys' and girls' new football fixture kits.
- Your business logo on our website and around our sporting facilities.

Interested? Please contact
shannon.trail@open-academy.org.uk



Miss Trail
Teacher

8. School Play



Mrs Ormosi
Teacher

9. Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award

We have 3 students who are looking to raise money to help with the cost of their gold expedition. As part of this fundraising they are looking for sponsorship for sweatshirts that they will wear on their expedition, during other fundraising events e.g car wash and beach clean and for general promotion. They are looking for £400 for a company logo front or back and £200 for each arm. If your company would be interested please contact ruth.pearsall@open-academy.org.uk

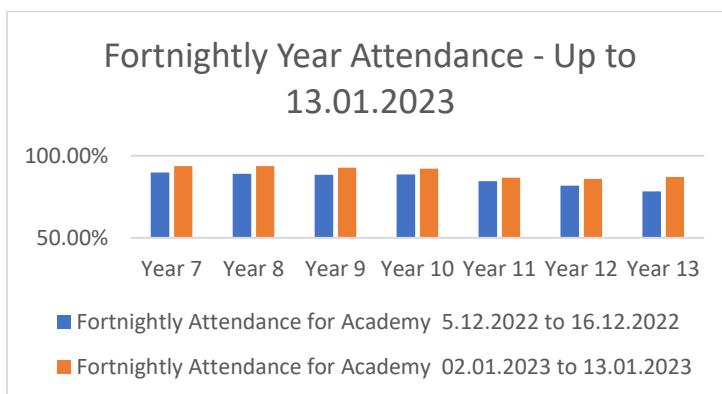
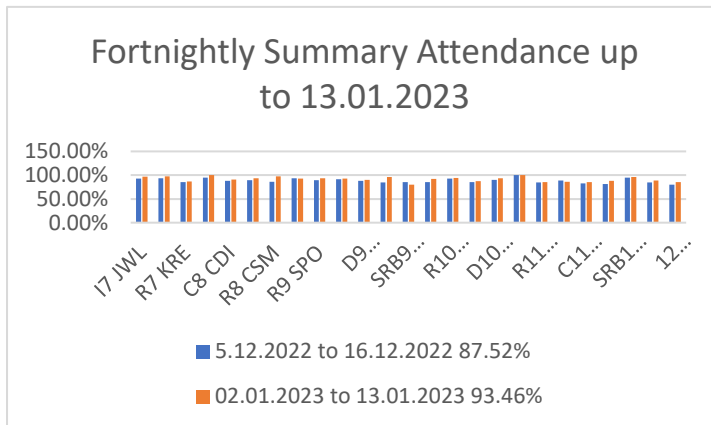
Mrs Pearsall
Teacher

10. Careers

- Calling parents of Year 10 students! Please encourage your young person in their search for a summer work experience placement, week commencing 10 July. Many students have already been successful, but in most cases some flexibility is required if you don't manage to get your first choice of employer. All work experience is valuable and enables students to acquire those transferable skills, which look so good on a CV and give confidence and maturity. Any questions about Summer WEX, please contact me.
- If you haven't done so already, please take a look at our 'live' careers newsletter! There is lots of information on careers and education pathways for all ages, eves adults! Go to the link via Careers on the Open Academy website or by clicking on <https://padlet.com/carolinedavies3/1ztsr3hkr8syd7ew>

Dr Davies
Assistant Head of Sixth Form and Careers Facilitator

11. Attendance



Please see the abovementioned attendance data for the two weeks for period 2 January 2023 to 13 January 2023 inclusive. Well done to the winning tutor group/s from each year group and SRB, who will be awarded the attendance trophy.

Mrs Ganson
Attendance Officer

12. Chaplain's Thought for the Week



God bless.

Mark Pimlott
Chaplain

SCHOOL FOOD

WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU DINE WITH US

FOOD FOR THE FUTURE

Research increasingly demonstrates the need for good nutrition across all age groups and we know a balanced diet reduces the number of nutrition-related illnesses in young people. We play an important role in promoting a well-balanced diet and setting students on the right track for later life.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

You may be entitled to them.
Check out this website:
www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals

Our menus are exciting and innovative, reflecting the very latest UK and international eating trends but with a real focus on **health and wellbeing**. Our menus adhere to the school food-based standards to make sure students are fuelled and hydrated for learning.

“We are one team with the same goal – to provide a great catering service to our customers and we love what we do!

We are committed to quality and our approach to food sourcing focuses on sustainability, seasonality and provenance.”

Allergens and Special Diets

We cater for different requirements so that all customers can enjoy a tasty meal with us every day. For pre-packaged food, our labelling processes have been reviewed to give ingredients and allergen information in accordance with Natasha's Law. We continue encourage customers to talk to us so we can work together to provide meals that are safe to eat.

Food Trends - What's hot and What's Not!

Attitudes and expectations around food are increasingly influenced by the high street and as we now eat a much wider variety of food than ever before - we make sure we are on trend!

We keep taste buds excited with our great Ravours of the Month themes and specials!

Vegan and Free-From.

Vegan and free-from ingredients are key to our recipe development and we love to tempt our customers with more and more opportunities to try alternative dishes.

We have a great range of Plant Power options as part of our menu cycle as well as our pop up special days.

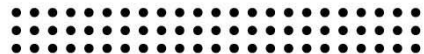
EMAIL: INFO@ASPENS-SERVICES.COM
WEB: ASPENS-SERVICES.COM



SCAN ME



EMAIL INFO@ASPENS-SERVICES.COM
WEB ASPENS-SERVICES.COM



Aspens



Sustainability Report - Secondary 2023

All of our ingredients have a carbon footprint based on production, origin and emissions to the atmosphere. Each recipe calculates the total footprint for a dish and the label on the menu shows how climate friendly each dish is. 100 meals / day for 3 wks

~ Average kg CO₂e per meal

• Aspens Services



• Average in the UK



🌱 Lowest & highest



BEEF KEEMA CURRY, WHOLEGRAIN RICE, MUSHROOM BHAJI SEC ...



ROAST CHICKEN & STUFFING BAP, ROASTIES, GRAVYNAISE & FRESH...

📊 Proportion of servings



- **Low 65%**
0.1-0.5 kg CO₂e
- **Medium 29%**
0.6-1.5 kg CO₂e
- **High 6%**
1.6+ kg CO₂e

🌍 Total



1,500
meals served



975
climate-friendly



918.5
kilograms CO₂e

Secondary 20 Feb - 10 Mar 2023

