

Open Academy Newsletter – 27 June 2025

Dear parents, carers and students

It has been another brilliant week at the Academy, full of opportunities to celebrate our students and come together as a school community.

We were delighted to take a group of students on the rewards trip to the Norfolk Show—a well-earned day out for those who've gone above and beyond this term. Our KS3 Rewards Evening was also a real highlight, showcasing the hard work and achievements of so many students. Thank you to all the families who joined us.

This week has also been a celebration of inclusivity and creativity. In assemblies, we have explored LGBTQ+ awareness, encouraging respect and understanding among students. Alongside this, our Literary Festival has brought the school to life with author visits, poetry competitions and lots of enthusiastic participation across year groups.

A particularly powerful moment came as we welcomed the Joe Dix Foundation into school. Their session on the impact of knife crime—on individuals, families and entire communities—was deeply moving and thought-provoking. It gave our students an important chance to reflect and understand the real-life consequences of these issues. We're incredibly grateful to the foundation for sharing such a personal and meaningful message with us.

Finally, a quick reminder that our school production of 'We Will Rock You' takes place next Wednesday and Thursday evening. We're so proud of the cast and crew, and we hope to see many of you there to support them. Tickets are available on the Arbor app.

Have a great weekend and thank you as always for your support.



Miss Wenlock (Vice Principal)

<https://www.open-academy.org.uk/our-academy/news/newsletters/>

1. School Meal Balances

Thank you for your patience while we resolved the issues between our cashless catering system and Arbor. I am pleased to say all balances showing on the Arbor app should now be accurate with transactions being updated daily. Obviously as the system has now caught up with the backlog some students are showing a negative balance where we had to give them an overdraft, please ensure you top up as soon as possible so they can access food from the canteen.

Where you are concerned about the amount deducted on anyone day you should be able to access daily invoices for the transactions that make up this amount. If you have any concerns please contact the finance office.

Mrs Appleby (Business Manager)

2. Year 7

- **Sports day** is on Friday, 11 July 2025. We hope that every Year 7 student will take part in some way. Please have a conversation with your son/daughter about it and encourage them to take part in an event.
- Every Wednesday from 3.00pm we have a **homework club** in a computer room to help those complete any outstanding homework.

Mr Pickup (Head of Year 7)

Mrs Smith (Assistant Head of Year 7)

3. Year 10

- Year 10 have one exam left on Monday which is either photography or art. Next week's focus in tutor time is preparing them for work experience. They will be completing their work experience introduction in form time and have their booklets to take to work experience the following week.
- Any students not on work experience will be following an adjusted timetable in school

Mrs Power (Head of Year 10)

Mrs Edwards (Assistant Head of Year 10)

4. Year 11

- **Lockers** - Can students please return any locker keys - a form will need to be completed by parents so we can provide a refund for the deposit.
- **Prom 2025** is on Friday, 4 July 2025 at Sprowston Manor from 6.00pm to 11.00pm. Payments should now have been made. Tickets are ready for collection from the year office.

Mr Dilley (Head of Year 11)

Mrs Lamb (Assistant Head of Year 11)

5. Safeguarding – Operation Encompass

What is Operation Encompass?

The purpose of Operation Encompass is to safeguard and support children and young people who have been involved in a domestic abuse incident. Following an incident at home, children will often arrive at school distressed, upset and unprepared for the day.

Norwich City Council, Norfolk Police and nominated Key Adults in school will be working together to make sure that school staff are made aware of an incident early enough to support pupils in school.

How it works?

Schools across Norfolk nominate a member of staff who will be known as Key Adults.

Each morning the police will review all domestic abuse incidents that occur outside of school, but which might have had an impact on a child attending school the following day. Where children were present, witnessed or involved in a domestic abuse incident and aged between 4 and 16 years old, the officer sends this information to the Council's Initial Contact and Referral Team who then send this information in a secure format to the named Key Adult in the child's school. The Key Adult checks their emails every day and the staff in contact with those pupils will then be in an informed position to support them in a way that is right for the child.

This information is shared on school days during school term and, when incidents occur on a Friday, Saturday, Sunday or over a holiday period, the police will contact the Council the following Monday.

For more information about Operation Encompass, please contact your school or visit <http://www.operationencompass.org/>

Mr Davis (Safeguarding Officer) and Mrs Roe (Assistant Safeguarding Officer)

6. Family Voice Newsletter

Please see the new Family Voice Newsletter with information on services to support parents, families and children with SEN needs.

[Family Voice Newsletter](#)

Mrs Hewitt-Coleman (SENCO)

7. Chaplain's Thought for the Week



Proverbs 3:5-6

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take."

Mark

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