

20th May 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope this letter finds you well. We have several important updates and reminders to share with you regarding the upcoming weeks at The Birley Academy.

Upcoming assessments for Years 7-10: After the half term break, students in Years 7 to 10 will be sitting assessments. The outcomes of these assessments will be shared with you later in the term (in the form of a report).

Our teachers have been diligently preparing students for these assessments. You too can help your child prepare for them by directing them to the knowledge organisers and curriculum sequencing documents available on the school website.

- Knowledge organisers: <https://www.birleysecondaryacademy.co.uk/knowledge-organisers-2/>
- Curriculum sequencing documents: <https://www.birleysecondaryacademy.co.uk/curriculum-plans-2/>

If you have any questions or want additional help, please feel free to contact Mr D. Casey, Deputy Headteacher for Quality of Education, who will be happy to assist you.

Importance of reading: At The Birley Academy, we believe that reading is crucial for student learning. All students read throughout the curriculum, and reading is an integral part of our tutor time programme. Further information can be found on the school website.

<https://www.birleysecondaryacademy.co.uk/reading-at-birley/>

New Deputy Headteacher for SEND and Inclusion: We are delighted to announce the appointment of Mrs. Husband as our new Deputy Headteacher for SEND and Inclusion. She will begin her role in the week commencing 3rd June (after the half-term break). We are thrilled to have recruited someone of her calibre.

Attendance and punctuality: Attendance and punctuality are vital for student success. Regular attendance ensures that students are actively engaged in their learning, allowing them to make the most of the educational opportunities we offer. We ask for your support in ensuring that your child attends school and arrives on time (8.25am) every day.

Expectations: We kindly request your assistance in ensuring your child attends school *punctually*, in the correct *uniform*, and with all necessary *equipment* to facilitate their learning effectively. Further information regarding our expectations and support resources can be accessed on the school website.

<https://www.birleysecondaryacademy.co.uk/uniform/>

Old uniform request: We kindly request donations of old school uniforms. By contributing, you can help support families in need within our community. These donations will be offered to those who may require assistance, ensuring that all our students have access to the appropriate school attire. Your generosity can make a significant difference, and we greatly appreciate your support in this initiative.





Culture week: The week beginning 20th May is Culture Week, where we celebrate the diverse cultures within our student and staff body. Our student councillors, who are over 100 strong, have taken the initiative to **Lead** on this week's programme. In doing so our students **Empower** others, allow them to **Achieve** their goals, and **Drive** improvement within our school community.

Good news section of the school website: We encourage you to visit the latest news section of our school website. Here, we showcase the outstanding work and efforts of our students and staff within the Academy. This section highlights achievements, special projects, and various initiatives that reflect the dedication and excellence of our school community. It's a great way to stay informed and celebrate the successes of our academy together. <https://www.birleysecondaryacademy.co.uk/latest-news-2/>

Hydration reminder: As the weather improves, please ensure your child brings a drink to school to stay hydrated, especially as the weather gets warmer.

Careers education and work experience: All students will continue to receive comprehensive careers education during PSHE lessons, and through the tutor time and assembly programmes. Also, from 8th to 19th July, our Year 10 students will embark on work experience placements. If you can provide a quality placement within your family company or the organisation you work for, please reach out to Ann Pemberton at the school. Your support will greatly enhance our students' learning and personal development.

Year 6 transition: We are thrilled to announce that our school is over-subscribed for Year 6. We eagerly anticipate welcoming our prospective students for three days of transition in early July. This will be a wonderful opportunity for new students to become acquainted with our school community and start their journey with us.

New Parent Governors: We are delighted to announce that, following our recent recruitment drive, three new parent governors will be joining our governing body. More information will be shared soon. This exciting development will help strengthen our ties with our brilliant and supportive parent community.

As always, we would like to thank you for your continued support. Together, we can help our students achieve their full potential and thrive both academically and personally.

Warm regards,

Victoria Hall

Headteacher

