



25 August 2023

Wakefield Road, Horbury,
West Yorkshire,
WF4 5HE

01924 282740

Dear Parent/Carer

enquiries@horbury.accomat.org
horbury.accomat.org

Summer update and our September return

Principal: Mrs Nicola Walker

I hope my communication finds all pupils, parents and carers safe and well and that you have all been able to enjoy the summer break so far. In this update I have included some of the information that was shared in my end of term letter alongside any new information and updates in readiness for our return to Horbury Academy on 5 September.

Examination Results Days

On Thursday 24 August, we were delighted to be able to welcome our Yr11 pupils back to collect their GCSE results. There was a wonderful atmosphere with lots of elated pupils. I would like to wish every pupil leaving the Academy all the very best for the future, this is a truly exciting time as they embark on the next steps in education and employment. We are incredibly proud of everything they have achieved!

Start of Term Arrangements for Year 7 to 11 Pupils

All pupils return to the academy on Tuesday 5 September and are asked to arrive in full academy uniform and equipped with their 5 a-day in readiness for learning at the following times:

8:00am-8:30am

Year 7 pupils only. Enter the academy through the Student Entrance and there will be signs in the atrium indicating where to sit (year 7 pupils will sit with their form group).

9:45am-10:00am

All pupils in years 8 to 11 are to enter the academy through the Student Entrance and from there will be directed to their form rooms. During form time pupils will be provided with their planners, timetables, and any important messages.

Catering Prices

Following a review of our catering provision and rising supplier costs there will be some slight increases in catering costs in the academy kitchen from September 2023. The cost of a meal deal will rise from £2.40 to £2.50. In addition, a number of other single items may also see an increase of no more than 5p per item.

Standards for Success September 2023

All pupils will be expected to be in full Academy uniform with equipment, as per our Standards for Success without exception.

In order to effectively support all pupils to meet our Standards for Success when they return in September, we would ask that all pupils arrive to the Academy prepared for learning with the following items of essential equipment, these include:

- At least one blue or black pen
- A purple pen
- A pencil, ruler and sharpener
- A scientific calculator (Casio FX-83GTCW) and protractor
- A reading book that is age appropriate
- A suitable bag in which to carry their books, planner and any specific equipment for practical activities.

In terms of uniform, our high expectations remain the same as this academic year. Specific details of our uniform expectations are available on our website however, for clarity I would ask for your support with the following in preparation for a smooth return to the Academy:

1. Pupils are in receipt of the correct uniform (as per the academy website) and understand how to wear it correctly. <https://horbury.accordmat.org/uniform/>

This includes:

- a. Ensuring that skirts are approved Horbury Academy skirts, purchased only from The Box, Ossett, are worn at the correct length and are not rolled or bunched at the waist. Any pupil who attends in an incorrect skirt will be provided with a pair of trousers to wear.
 - b. Shirts are long enough to be tucked into trousers.
 - c. Trousers are not skinny fit but are a tailored school trouser.
 - d. Trousers must cover the ankle.
 - e. Socks must be plain black and also cover the ankle.
2. Pupils are in receipt of appropriate school shoes that are plain black and without embellishments or decoration. These should be broken in (worn in advance) so as not to cause blisters. Pupils will not be permitted to change into alternative footwear should this issue arise.
 3. Pupils should not wear makeup of any description. This includes artificial nails, fake tan or false eyelashes.
 4. Pupils should not wear piercings of any kind.
 5. Pupils should not wear jewellery. A watch may be worn and is advised.
 6. Pupils should have appropriate outer wear and all pupils are reminded that no hoodies are permitted.

Should you require any support with uniform in advance of our return in September please contact the Academy via enquiries@horbury.accordmat.org where we will be happy to support you with this.

Ties

All pupils starting in year 7 will be provided their tie on Tuesday 5 September

Communications via My Child At School (MCAS)

As part of our communication strategy, we make use of MCAS, we use this to send key messages home, notify parents of important events and signpost towards letters and documents which may be posted on our website. This is available via an APP on your smartphone and there is also a desktop version for PCs. It is crucial that key parental contacts have this messaging system to ensure that vital information is not missed. If you haven't already, please can parents and carers ensure that they have signed up to MCAS. If you do not have the invitation email that was sent when your child joined the academy, then this can be reissued by contacting data@horbury.accordmat.org

Calendar Dates for 2023/2024

The following represents the confirmed Inset Day arrangements for next academic year with a full breakdown of the term dates and Academy calendar available on our website

<https://horbury.accordmat.org/>

- Monday 4 September 2023 – Inset Day
- Tuesday 5 September 2023 – Academy opens to all pupils
- Friday 1 December 2023 – Inset Day
- Friday 22 December 2023 – Inset Day
- Friday 9 February 2024 – Inset Day
- Monday 22 July 2024 – Inset Day

Contacting the Academy



Whilst the Academy will only be operating with minimal staffing until 4 September, should you need to make contact you can do so by either contacting main reception on 01924 282740 or by emailing enquiries@horbury.accordmat.org.

Finally, I hope all pupils and their families can enjoy what remains of our summer break. I very much look forward to welcoming all pupils and staff members back into the Academy next week.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Nicola Walker
Principal



Support for Families and Young People

Beat – Support and Information about eating disorders – 0808 8010677.

www.beateatingdisorders.org.uk

Calm Harm App – An award winning, free app to support people to overcome feelings of anxiety and self-harm. Featured on the NHS digital app library and found in the Apple and Play store.

Childline – 0800 1111

Childline provides a free counselling service for young people up to their 19th birthday.

Cruse Bereavement – 0808 8081677

Cruse offers support, information and advice when someone dies.

GASPED - 0845 146 0002 (24-hour confidential helpline).

GASPED is a registered charity established in 1995 offering information, advice, help and support for the parents, partners, families and carers who care for or are affected by a loved one's drug and/or alcohol misuse.

Local Children First Hub – 01924 307 878

Children's First Hub provides support for families in the local area.

255 Barnsley Road, Wakefield WF1 5NU

Email: WFTSouthWestAdmin@wakefield.gov.uk

Website: Family Hubs – www.wakefieldfamilies-together.co.uk/community-support/familyhubs

Kooth – www.kooth.com A website which provides an online counselling service for young people, provided by the NHS.

NSPCC - 0808 800 5000 for adults concerned about a child or 0800 1111 to speak to Childline if you are a young person.

Place2Be – Mental Health Charity. www.place2be.org.uk

Provides resources for parents, including supporting your child starting primary and secondary school.

Samaritans – 116 123 (Helpline) or 01924 377011 for Wakefield Branch.

Open 8am – 10pm to receive callers at the door at 37-39a Charlotte Street, Wakefield, WF1 1UL. Website

<http://www.samaritans.org/branches/samaritans-wakefield-and-district>

Star Bereavement Support Service – 01924 787384 www.starwakefield.org.uk.

Providing Advice, support and counselling for families and young people in our region.

Turning Point Inspiring Futures (Substance Misuse Support) 0300 123 1912 www.turning-point.co.uk/services/wakefield

Wakefield District Domestic Abuse Service - 0800 915 1561

WDDAS <http://www.wakefield.gov.uk/health-care-and-advice/adults-and-older-peopleservices/domestic-abuse>

Wakefield District Housing - OneCALL 0345 8 507 507. WDH <https://www.wdh.co.uk/ContactUs/>

Wakefield Well Women's Centre – 01924 211114

<http://www.wellwomenwakefield.org.uk>