



UNSWORTH ACADEMY



Monday 6th September 2021

Dear Parents /Carers

I hope you have all had a safe and relaxing Summer. In my last letter to you all dated 22nd July 2021, I shared with you our plans for the start of this new academic year. (A copy of the letter is available on our website.) However, I thought it would be useful to update you with where we are now up to in terms of our final arrangements. Our testing centre opened last Thursday and is on track to complete all testing by close of school tomorrow. This means we are "Good to Go" to warmly welcome all our learners back to school on Wednesday 8th September as follows:

- **Year 7 arrive at 8.35am for an 8.45am start**
- **Years 8 to 11 arrive at 11.15am for an 11.25 am start**

Covid-19 Update

With the plans we have already put in place, we are confident that this new academic year will get off to a fantastic flying start. Our updated Covid -19 Risk Assessment and Outbreak Management Plans are both on our website. Our enhanced cleaning regime will continue. Our separate entrances and exits will remain in place, and all learners will sanitise their hands upon entry to school and every classroom. Desks will continue to be sanitised at the end of every lesson. Whilst no longer mandatory, learners and staff can wear face masks in school if they wish to do so, and, wherever possible, we will enhance ventilation across the school.

Our one-way system, introduced at the start of the pandemic, really does support the safe movement of staff and learners around the school, and this system will remain in place. Separate outside lunchtime zones will also remain in place for years 7, 8 and 9, with years 10 and 11 sharing their social space. The school canteen will now resume full service, with a wider hot and cold offer. Both years 7 and 8 will not have experienced our "pre Covid" dining areas, so, over the next week or so, we will give them some additional time at lunchtimes to enable them to understand how our lunchtime systems work.

Outstanding Expectations

The weather forecast for Wednesday is predicting heatwave temperatures, so please can you ensure that your child comes to school with a refillable water bottle, so that they can keep themselves hydrated throughout the day and thereafter. Please be reminded that fizzy, sugary drinks, including energy drinks, are not allowed. Chewing gum is also not allowed, and we politely ask that you support your child to bring in healthy snacks.

All learners are expected to arrive smartly dressed in full and correctly worn school uniform. School shoes must be school shoes and not trainers or hybrid shoes. Make up, jewellery (other than a watch) and piercings are not allowed. Whilst we appreciate that some jewellery may have sentimental value, for obvious reasons, including health and safety reasons, it cannot be worn in school. If a learner is found to be wearing jewellery then it will be confiscated and placed in the school safe until the end of the day. Mobile phones must not be seen or used in school and the school accepts no responsibility for them should a learner wish to bring their mobile phone to school. Hoodies are not allowed; they are not coats.

Mrs S Armstrong Academy Principal

Unsworth Academy, Parr Lane, Bury, BL9 8LP

Tel: 0161 796 9820 **Email:** information@unsworth.shaw-education.org.uk

Online: www.unsworthacademy.org.uk



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Unsworth Academy PE kit is the only kit allowed for PE and we will not allow the wearing of any designer brand sportswear. We have been informed that there have been some distribution problems for our uniform suppliers with regard to our P.E. kit. If this affects your child then, then please ensure that they wear plain black shorts or leggings and a plain white t-shirt for P.E. while they await their ordered kit. A full uniform list is available on our website.

All learners must bring the following equipment to school and in their own school bag:

- **Pencil case** – preferably clear plastic, containing: 2 black pens, 1 green pen, a pencil, ruler, rubber, sharpener, **compass, protractor and glue stick.**
- **School calculator** – and the Maths department strongly recommend the following one: **CASIO fx-83GTX Scientific Calculator, Black** (approximately £11.00 from Amazon)

We thank you in advance for supporting our outstanding expectations. We know you expect nothing less.

School Gateway App

This academic year we will be enhancing our use of the School Gateway app to further improve our communication and keep you up to date with how your child is doing in school. **The app will include your child's latest attendance data and will far more quickly inform you when they receive a reward or a sanction.** You are also able to top up your child's lunch account and pay for trips via the app. Communications from school will come via the app ensuring you are fully informed of the latest news and events. The app is free to download and works on all devices. To sign up you will need to use the e-mail address and mobile number we have on record; this will then send you a pin to log in. If you have more than one child in school, they will all be listed in one parent/carer account. **A parent guide is attached to support you to download School Gateway and login ready for the start of term.**

Thank you as always for your support. Please contact us via the school reception or email at: information@unsworth.shaw-education.org.uk if you have any other queries.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Armstrong
Academy Principal

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