

Dear Parent/Carer

As we approach the end of the first half-term in this academic year, I would like to send a big thank you for your support in enabling such a positive eight weeks. The standard of uniform, equipment and engagement in lessons has been excellent. Students have worked incredibly hard in lessons to make sure they make every moment count. There are a number of revision sessions available over half-term for years 10, 11, 12 and 13. Details can be found [here](#).

Personal Development

Students at The Sutton Academy follow a 'Personal Social Health and Economic' education program of study which complies with statutory guidelines. Our Personal Development curriculum is delivered through our Ready to Learn sessions, PSHE lessons, assemblies, extra-curricular activities, external guest speakers and through our four core values.

This half-term in PSHE, all students have been focussing on the topic of Relationships and Sex Education. Year 9 students also participated in a contraceptive talk delivered by Teenage Advice Zone (TAZ).

In our Ready to Learn programme, students engage with the importance of attendance, mental wellbeing and reading. In addition, this half-term students have been exploring 'Careers and Aspirations' topics. The careers element of the curriculum, like the PSHE curriculum, is sequenced in an age appropriate way that aligns with Government guidelines and Gatsby Benchmarks.

Year 7: Being my best self
Year 8: Aspirational people and goal setting
Year 9: Experiencing the working world
Year 10: Universities
Year 11: Making post 16 choices

Within our vision for Personal Development, our aim is to prepare students for the challenges of an ever-changing world. This half-term we welcomed BBC Bitesize and a panel of speakers to engage our learners in careers within our local area. We hosted an apprentice from Jaguar Land Rover, a content creator from Radio Merseyside and a Community Liaison Lead from Liverpool Museum. The talk was part of our annual careers offer, and students were given advice about careers and the opportunity to ask questions.

If you require any further information about the Personal Development we offer, please consult the academy website or, if you have questions please email our Personal Development Curriculum Leader claire.sidhu@thesuttonacademy.org.uk

Attendance

I recently wrote to all parents about the importance of attendance. Thank you to the number of parents/carers who contacted me providing their support with this. A reminder that every day does count in a child's education, and those students with better attendance leave with better qualifications and a greater number of everyday experiences with their peers.

Standards (a regular reminder):

We firmly believe that students' education should not be hampered by a lack of equipment. Below is a list of equipment that is non-negotiable so that students can access their learning.

- A bag that can at least hold a PE kit, exercise books and equipment. Any bag that cannot hold these items is not a suitable bag.
- Pen, pencil, ruler, eraser, pencil sharpener.
- A green and purple pen (provided by the academy)
- PE kit on those days they have PE. Students will be expected to borrow a kit if they forget their own.

To make sure that the staffs focus can be on students' learning and wellbeing, can we please make sure that students return back with the **correct** shoes and uniform. Students are not permitted to wear false nails, nail varnish, fake eye lashes or dye their hair an unnatural colour. Further information can be found on the Uniform section of the academy website. There has recently been an increase in a small number of students wearing fake eye lashes and nails, which has led to them being removed from lessons until they are removed. Please support the academy by making sure these are removed before your child attends.

Return Dates

The academy finishes for half-term at the normal time on Friday 25 October, normal lessons will be taking place throughout with a small gift for all students on site that day, so please make sure your child attends so they can receive their gift from the academy!

A reminder that **Monday 4 November is a staff training day**. All students will return to the academy at the normal time on Tuesday 5 November. The academic calendar for 2025/26 has been agreed by Governors and has been uploaded to the academy website.

I hope that everyone enjoys a restful half-term and we look forward to welcoming students back on Tuesday 5 November.

Yours faithfully



P Willerton
Principal