



ASTREA ACADEMY WOODFIELDS
Weston Road, Balby, Doncaster, DN4 8ND
01302 312140
Principal: Mr David Scales



Dear parent/carer,

I hope this letter finds you well-rested and ready for the exciting new academic year ahead.

As we start this new academic year, I want to remind you of the letter that was sent to you on the 16th of July. That communication included important details regarding our school uniform expectations and the start dates for this term. I trust that everyone has had time to prepare and is ready to return with the right mindset, properly dressed, and equipped for success.

The letter is available on our website and can be found here: [End-of-Term-Letter-2024.docx \(live.com\)](#)

As this academic year begins, I have some important reminders for you, so your child is ready for their first day back. Please make sure that you read this carefully and contact us if you have any queries at office@astreawoodfields.org.

THE GCSE COUNTDOWN

Year 11 is the final stretch of your child's GCSE journey, and it is the most critical time in their academic career so far. Every lesson, every piece of revision, and every exam counts. With their mocks starting just after half term, it is essential to approach this year with focus, determination, and a sense of urgency.

The key dates for the Class of 2027 are detailed below:

Date	Event
17 th October 2024	SLT attainment evening
26 th October – 28 th October 2024	Class of 2027 PGL revision residential.
29 th October -31 st October 2024	Half Term revision sessions in school
4th November – 15th November 2024	Class of 2027 Mock 2
12 th December 2024	Class of 2027 Parents evening – Mock Results Discussion
6 th January 2025	SLT attainment evening
17 th February – 19 th February 2025	Half Term revision sessions in school.
24th February – 7th March 2025	Class of 2027 Mock 3



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27 th March 2025	Class of 2027 Parents evening
31 st March – 2 nd April 2025	Easter revision in school
7 th April – 9 th April 2025	Easter revision in school
12th May 2025 – 20th June 2025	Final GCSE Exams
26 th May – 28 th May 2025	Half Term revision in school
23 rd June 2025	Class of 2027 Prom
16 th July 2025	Astrea Academy Woodfields Awards Evening

PROM PASSPORT

The Prom is a celebration of all the hard work and resilience Y11 have shown over the year. The opportunity to attend the Prom is one which must be earned by your child. More details on the 'Prom Passport' will be released shortly but in short scholars must have excellent attendance, impeccable behaviour, complete all homework and attend every holiday or weekend revision session and Period 6.

HOMEWORK

Homework is crucial in reinforcing learning at GCSE and your child will be expected to complete 2 hours of homework per day. It is crucial that you support your child to complete all homework on time. Your child will be set homework via online platforms, and we appreciate your support in ensuring they can log on to Sparx Maths, Sparx Reader and Sparx Science. Alongside these online platforms your child will be set paper-based homework which will include past papers. Homework support is available in school for any scholars who need guidance or alternatively a quiet place to work.

RETURN TO SCHOOL - 2024-25: Class of 2027 (Year 11)

We will have a staggered return to school in September so that we can support a calm and orderly beginning to the school year. This is as follows:

Year Group	2023-24 School Year	2024-25 School Year	Tie Colour	Time and Date of Return
Co2027	Y10	Y11	White	8:00am, Wednesday 4 th September



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ATTENDANCE

All children on roll at Astrea Academy Woodfields are expected to attend school in line with the law. This means we will expect your child at the date and time outlined above. Those that attend 97% of the time or greater are more likely to achieve strong passes at GCSE and have the opportunities and choices that come with that.

The link below explains the legislation regarding attendance and fixed penalty notices (fines):

<https://www.astreawoodfields.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Penalty-Notices-June-2024-2.pdf>

It is important that you work with us and communicate the issues that you are facing regarding absence as these fines have increased and will now be issued automatically when there are 10 missing sessions within a 10-week period. As an example, if a child in a two-parent family was late to school once a week for 10 weeks, the fine could be £320. Similarly, a one-week holiday before Christmas would receive the same level of fine. Further offences are tracked up to three years, with a possibility of prosecution for the third offence. This would be shown on DBS certificates.

I want to work with you and offer support to prevent this happening. Please stay in contact with the school giving valid reasons for absence and accepting the help we offer. This is in the interest of everyone, particularly your child and their future.

UNIFORM

Our uniform is the smartest in Doncaster and our scholars wear it with pride. It is compulsory while on site and while on school trips unless otherwise stated. You will need to ensure that the uniform is purchased over summer from our supplier so that your child looks smart with a uniform that fits.

Our uniform requirements are found here:

<https://www.astreawoodfields.org/parent-information/uniform/>

Our supplier is:

www.schoolwearsolutions.com

We have kept the cost of uniform as low as possible by avoiding branded items. We also have a hardship fund that you can apply to if you find that finances are challenging.

A reminder that scholars need to wear black, leather, polishable shoes and not anything that resembles a trainer. This includes any Converse, Nike, Vans or similar shoes.



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Scholars should wear grey tailored trousers that are long enough to cover the ankle and touch the shoe and should not be skin-tight, leggings or stretch fit. Scholars should wear black socks, or black tights if they opt to wear the academy kilt.

NAILS, HAIR, MAKE UP and JEWELLERY

We have always been clear that scholars can wear a single pair of stud earrings and should otherwise have natural hairstyles, eyelashes, and nails.

Any piercings other than a single pair of ear piercings are strictly prohibited at Woodfields. If your child has gained a piercing other than a single pair of earrings, then these must be removed before coming to school or action would be taken in line with our behaviour policy.

False nails, hair dye and false lashes all fall within this category. It is safer not to allow your children to have this work done, as we would require them to remove them before arriving at school on their first day back.

EQUIPMENT PACKS

It is the responsibility of scholars to ensure that they are properly equipped for September. You will need to buy the following if your child has any of the following items missing:

Secure A4 Equipment Bag				
Blue/Black Biro Pen	Purple Biro	Pencil	30cm Ruler	Mini Whiteboard
Knowledge Organiser	Barcode	Maths Equipment Pack	Blue Reading Tracker	Whiteboard Pen

We bought these items and supplied them free of charge in April for every child. Scholars can bring old items and have them replaced with new ones free of charge. If packs are lost, we charge £5 for a replacement pack. This is compulsory.

Please replace any of these items and store these packs safely for the return in September. Amazon, WH Smith and any good stationer stock these items.



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ELECTRONIC ITEMS AND PHONES

We are a mobile phone and electronic item, including smartwatch, free school. Any item that is seen, heard, or suspected to have been used by a scholar will be confiscated and returned between 3-4pm on the next working day. This confiscation length increases if the problem persists. Some scholars may gain new items over this summer period, they will not be able to be taken into school, so please support us by being clear about these rules.

This year promises to be filled with new opportunities for learning and achievement and we are looking forward to warmly greeting scholars on their first day back.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Scales'.

Mr David Scales
Principal

