

Headteacher Bulletin 10th November 2025

Dear Parents/Carers and Students of Our Arena,

As you are aware, attendance to school is a key focus for Our Arena. Students who have high attendance are far more likely to achieve good grades. Attendance for week ending 7th November highlighted that on average 925 students out of our total students on roll achieved the expected attendance across the week. We continue to experience high levels of illness across the week in the academy. I will need you to work closely with us to ensure that unless your child is incredibly unwell, they attend the academy every day. Students are expected to arrive on time to school every single day. Our academy start time is 8.35am.

With this continued partnership to support young people attending the academy on a consistent basis, I am pleased to announce that we have been recognised for our strong attendance ethos across the academic year 2024-2025. This is a testament to all the hard work arena staff, parent/carers and above all our students continue to put in. I am confident that this academic year, we will achieve the top 10% ranking.

Afterschool Clubs

We are currently still reviewing our after-school club processes across the Trust, and as a result, all clubs have been temporarily paused until further notice. I have had several students ask me about the resumption of after school clubs; once we are happy with processes we will recommence clubs after school. Year 11 continue to attend after school intervention sessions.

Sir Nick Williams Visit to the academy-Tuesday 11th November 11am to 1pm

I am always thrilled to welcome external visitors to Arena Academy, as it provides a huge opportunity for staff and students to showcase the amazing work that takes place at the academy. We are fortunate to welcome Sir Nick Williams to the academy on Tuesday. Sir Nick has had a resounding career in education and continues to impact the educational philosophy that exists in our surrounding. We will be fortunate to host and learn from the incredible experience and learning Sir Nick provides. Please continue to showcase the warm welcome to all our external guests.

Year 11 Parents evening (Year 11 Mock results collection)- Thursday 13th November 5:00 – 7:30pm

Year 11 have worked incredibly hard to prepare and then undertake their first set of Mocks just before the end of half term. Staff have been working immensely hard to make and upload mock data.

I look forward to welcoming all Year 11 parent/carers to collect mock results and then attend Year 11 parents=evening with your child. This will be a unique opportunity to access your child's subject teach who will be providing you a detailed update on your child's progress. Your child will also receive a detailed question level analysis which will enable yourself and your child to dissect which areas they need to revise and prepare further.

To support your child's success in the upcoming GCSE exams, it is imperative that they are revising at least two hours daily.

Mobile Phone Pouches Launch-Monday 10th November

As you are aware, a significant amount of work has been undertaken to review the impact of phone mobile usage. To ensure that we are supporting the right level of “zonal proximity” for our students, we will be distributing a bespoke phone pouch for each student in the academy from Monday. Students are expected to follow the procedure throughout the academy day. Staff and students have been briefed in detail regarding the mobile phone pouches. Any student not adhering to the procedure and practise will be suspended from the academy.

Homework

The homework procedure has been updated in the academy, and this has now been shared with all students in the academy. It is imperative that your child engages with the homework set and time manage themselves to complete all set tasks in timely fashion.

All students are expected to invest at least half an hour on each piece of homework they are set. We know recognise the 100% effort rather than the 100% accuracy.

Knife arch in school

As part of our ongoing work in ensuring students are safe in school, we work very closely with our community liaison office PC Manns carry out regular searches to ensure that students are not bringing any prohibited items into school. A reminder that this happens once every half term. Previously these searches have not found any prohibited items, and I hope that this continues to be the case.

Year 7-PC1 Results-Friday 14th November

All Year 7 students will receive their PC1 results on Friday. Year 7 have worked incredibly hard for their PC1 assessments and I have every confidence that the results they receive will match all the hard work and commitment they have put in.

Anti Bullying week

As anti-bullying week approaches, it is important to highlight that the week recognises the continued work both staff and students undertake to ensure our academy is safe, cohesive and welcomes all adults and children from different backgrounds. It is imperative that we all work together to challenge any stereotypes.

I would like to finally finish by following the sentiments of Mr Mann in his letter to you. It is an honour and privilege to serve our young people at the academy and by being appointed Head of School only fuels my passion for every young person to succeed even further. Please do not hesitate to contact me at the academy if you require my assistance.

Kind regards,
Mr Malik