

Headteacher Bulletin 20th October 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. Can I refer you to the NHS document 'Is my child too unwell for school'. Please use the attached document to check if your child is well enough to attend school. This half term we have had a large number of students taking time off for minor ailments such as minor colds, sore throats etc. Next week is the last week of this half term, and previously attendance has dipped on the last Friday as students begin the holiday early. We expect all students in school on the Friday - it will be a normal school day, finishing at the usual time of 3:10pm.

Overall School Performance

The Department for Education has recently published GCSE results for all schools for the 2024–2025 academic year. I am very pleased to share Arena Academy's results with you, which reflect the fantastic progress we continue to make as a school. As you will see, our performance has improved year on year across every category— and I am confident we will continue to build on this success. Thank you for your continued support. This achievement would not have been possible without the strong partnership between school and Parents. Please click the link below to view Our Arena's performance:

[Arena Academy - Compare school and college performance data in England - GOV.UK](#)

Afterschool Clubs and rumours

We are currently reviewing our after-school club processes across the Trust, and as a result, all clubs have been temporarily paused until further notice. I am confident that the review will be completed next week and that clubs will resume shortly thereafter. I would also like to address and dispel some inaccurate rumours circulating on unofficial Facebook groups—such as claims that “the school is broke” or that “there has been an argument between the Headteacher and the Trust.” I can confirm that neither of these statements is true. In fact, Arena Academy has employed more staff over the past five years than we have ever had, which reflects the strong and healthy state of our budget. I continue to have an excellent relationship with our Trust, whose support has been instrumental in Arena Academy's ongoing success.

Are you interested in Singing or Dancing? Do you want to audition for the (NYMT) National Youth Music Theatre or (RBC) Royal Birmingham Conservatoire?

If you answered yes to any of the above, we have a very exciting opportunity for all students. On Tuesday 21st October, we have the directors of NYMT and RBC coming into school who want to meet a group of students for auditioning. If you are interested, please see Ms Alam tomorrow in room 18 at lunchtime on Monday or complete this form: <https://forms.office.com/e/1Ww1SWiMe5>

Halloween Disco - Thursday 22nd October 6:00 – 8:00pm

Excitement is building amongst students for this event. It will be going ahead as normal on Thursday, please ensure that tickets have been purchased via parent pay. I am sure that students are busy sorting out their costumes for what will be a very spooky night.

Rewards Fair – Friday 24th October

Many of you are busy collecting CORE points this half term (on Friday it will be double CORE points!). This week you will get the opportunity to exchange these for rewards at the Rewards Fair which will be taking place on Friday 24th October.

Homework

We are currently reviewing our approach to homework to make sure expectations are clear and consistent for all students. In the coming weeks, we will share clear information on what is expected of students and how we will be supporting and monitoring homework.

Student Searches in school

As part of our ongoing work in ensuring students are safe in school, we 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.

For those celebrating Diwali on Monday, I wish you all a joyous celebration.

Kind regards

Mr Mann