



Headteacher Bulletin 26th February 2024

Dear Parents/Carers and Students of Our Arena,

Thank you for all your support during the first week back of another short spring half-term. It has been a fantastic week, with students dressed smartly and eager to learn. On Thursday, we were visited by our CORE Education Board of Trustees, who all remarked on the calm and orderly atmosphere of the school. Based on student and Parent feedback, we will now be sending a joint Headteacher Parent and Student bulletin, please find edition 22 below.

See it, Hear it... Lose it – mobile phone

As you may have heard in the news, the use of mobile phones in school is prohibited. At Arena Academy, our policy is: if a phone is seen or heard it will be confiscated and only a Parent/Carer will be required to collect it. We appreciate this may cause some inconvenience for parents initially, but hopefully students will get the message to keep their phone switched off and in their bag. It will not be returned to the student. We understand the need for phones to be with a student to and from school, but there is no need for them to be used during a school day. Please see attached poster for more information.

Year 11 – Preparation for actual GCSE Examinations.

There are only 42 school days remaining until the actual GCSE examinations start. A full timetable can be found here: [Year 11 Examinations - Arena Academy \(corearena.academy\)](https://corearena.academy/Year-11-Examinations-Arena-Academy). Please find below important information for all Year 11 Parents and students:

- All students should be revising for at least 2 hours a day using a revision timetable.
- Everything you need to know about revision is detailed in the attached booklet. It is also available on our website here: [Year 11 Examinations - Arena Academy \(corearena.academy\)](https://corearena.academy/Year-11-Examinations-Arena-Academy)
- We are starting a new initiative called '**Exam Papers Society**'. Year 11 students are invited to rooms 5 and 6 every Wednesday and Friday from 3:20 to 5:00pm. Students will have the opportunity to work on past exam papers with their peers. A portion of free chicken wings will also be provided! Please see attached poster.
- Past exam papers are available to download here: [Past Exam papers JCO](#)
- Students will be given their final mock examination results on Friday 1st March.
- For Maths revision, please visit our new Maths revision webpage: [Year 11 Maths Revision - Arena Academy \(corearena.academy\)](https://corearena.academy/Year-11-Maths-Revision-Arena-Academy)

Attendance – Everyone's Responsibility

The Spring half terms are both short half terms, so it is disappointing that some students were absent on either the Friday before, or Monday after, the half term. Every day is vital for continuation of learning so please do not arrange for any students to be absent on the last day of this half term. Unfortunately, some parents have again been issued with penalty

notices due to unauthorised absences. If your child is ill, please contact the school on each day of their absence and provide an explanatory note on their return to school. Please use the NHS website for more information about illness: [Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk). All information about attendance can be found here: [Attendance - Arena Academy \(corearena.academy\)](https://corearena.academy)

Year 9 Parents Evening

A reminder that this will take place on Thursday 29th February from 4:15 - 7:15pm (please see attached poster). There are no appointments for this event, parents are welcome to turn up at any time and see staff as they become available. Please make every effort to attend as this is an excellent opportunity for you to discuss with members of staff the next steps in your child's journey to GCSE success. We will also have many organisations available in Arena Central for you to talk to advisors about careers. Please visit our Year 9 Guided choices page where we have uploaded two new booklets for students and parents to read titled 'What are my options after Year 11'. [Year 9 Guided Choices - Arena Academy \(corearena.academy\)](https://corearena.academy)

Vaping

The number of children using vapes has tripled in the last three years and there is strong evidence to suggest that cheap and easy-to-use disposable vapes are partly to blame. The Department for Health and Social Care announced last week that disposable vapes will be banned in the UK as part of government plans to tackle the rise in youth vaping and protect children's health. If a child at Arena Academy is seen with a vape, they will be suspended and then placed on a mandatory 'dangers of vaping' course. More information is available here: [Disposable vape ban and what it means for young people - The Education Hub \(blog.gov.uk\)](https://blog.gov.uk)

Collaboration Coffee Morning – Tuesday 27th February 9:00 – 10:00am

This is open to all parents to drop into school to discuss any issues or get help with supporting your child. If you wish to attend, or require more details, please email Mr Malik at smalik@corearena.academy

To remain up-to-date on what is happening in school, check out our website [Arena Academy \(corearena.academy\)](https://corearena.academy) for our latest news articles and follow us on X (formerly Twitter) [@COREArenaAcad \(3\) Arena Academy \(@COREArenaAcad\) / X \(twitter.com\)](https://twitter.com/COREArenaAcad) for a wealth of content from students and staff. Thank you for your continued support and please get in touch if there is any aspect of our provision that you would like to discuss.

Kind regards

Mr Mann