

Headteacher Bulletin 2nd February 2026

Dear Parents/Carers and Students of Our Arena,

I have said many times in this bulletin how proud I am to be the Executive Headteacher at Arena Academy. On Monday night my heart was full of pride as I watched several of our students participate in a performance at the Royal Ballet School. They were outstanding. As part of the Echo Eternal project, our students performed alongside members of the Royal Ballet School, Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, and NYMT (National Youth Music Theatre), representing the school so magnificently. Amongst the audience were family members of Holocaust survivors who were moved to tears by the performance. The Echo Eternal performance was part of the Holocaust Memorial Day (Tuesday 27th). Please click here to view a clip from Good Morning Britain showing our students performing and being interviewed: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1EnC-YXdo_HibGkzavhL8KpKgDIYGIANZ/view?usp=drive_link

Mental Health Week and Safer Internet Day

Two key topics next week which focus on our students' well-being.

Mental Health Week - Students should be aware that they can speak to any member of staff if they have any concerns, they can also use Whisper. Within school we have two counselling services available - Youth Up counselling and Compass. If you feel that your child would benefit from counselling, please contact their Year Coordinator to discuss your concerns in the first instance.

Safer Internet Day - Friday 6th February - Throughout the day students will be made aware of the dangers of the internet. The focus will be on ensuring that students understand how to remain safe online and the many dangers and challenges they may face when interacting on social media and the use of the internet. Parents can support what is being done in school by having conversations with their child and ensuring that the sites they are using are age appropriate and not harmful.

Year 9 Options

It is an important time of the year for Year 9 when they make their choices of subjects they wish to study from Year 10. Please find below two key dates:

Thursday 5th February - Parents Evening - results from PC1 will be given out and the opportunity to discuss your child's progress with subject teachers.

Thursday 12th February - Options Evening - staff will be available to discuss Year 10 subjects and help with completion of the options form.

Attendance – Everyone's Responsibility

Thank you to all parents who are ensuring that their child attends school every day unless they have an authorised reason for their absence. Our attendance data from September to now shows variations in attendance for the different year groups. I find it

hard to believe that a Year 9 student is more likely to be ill than any other year group. Please can all students attend every day unless they have a valid reason not to.

	% Attend
Year 7	95.6
Year 8	92.2
Year 9	90.8
Year 10	91.5
Year 11	93.5

Careers Fair

As you may be aware, Arena Academy will be hosting a Careers Fair for students in Years 7–11 on Tuesday 3rd March. We would like to extend an invitation to parents and carers to attend the event between 9:00am and 10:00am, where you will have the opportunity to explore a range of career pathways and speak with representatives from various providers and industries. Please note that students will attend a session with their year group later in the day. If you would like to attend, please complete the short form below by **Monday 23rd February**.

[Careers Fair - Tuesday 3rd March - Parent Sign Up – Fill out form](#)

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Guest on KGuest@corearena.academy.

Kind regards
Mr Mann