

Dear Parents/Carers and Students of Our Arena,

A warm welcome to the start of this academic year. I have been delighted with how the students have begun, they have shown a positive and mature attitude throughout the week.

Standards and Expectations - 'Our Arena Way'

Research shows that schools that model and practice what is expected of students have good behaviour attitudes from them throughout the year. This week our students have practiced many of our expectations and standards and are now fully aware of what is required in lessons and around the school in social times. I am confident that they will maintain these standards throughout this academic year.

Uniform

Students arrived on the first day wearing excellent uniform. Thank you to all parents for ensuring that students were dressed according to our uniform policy. If at any time during the school year, as your child grows, you have difficulty replacing uniform, please do contact your child's Year Coordinator as we may be in a position to help. Can all students ensure they are dressed in the correct uniform every day, and not just the first week back. For more information about our uniform expectations, please click here: [Uniform & Equipment - Arena Academy](#)

Attendance – Everyone's Responsibility

Overall, the attendance this week was good, however there were a number of students who were still on holiday. In line with the Birmingham City Council policy on taking holidays during term time, these families are at risk of being fined. If at any time your child is unable to attend school, please contact the school to inform the relevant Year Coordinator. All absences must be explained; phone calls are made every morning between 9:00 – 10:00am to determine why a student is not in school.

Please find attached a chart that shows what impact poor attendance has on academic outcomes.

Extra-Curricular clubs

We know that learning goes beyond the classroom, and extra-curricular clubs play a big part in developing new skills, building confidence, and creating a stronger school community. To make sure the activities we offer this year reflect the interests of our students, we've created a short survey for both parents and students. Your feedback will help us plan a variety of clubs that are enjoyable, inclusive, and accessible to everyone. Please take a few minutes to share your thoughts. Your feedback will directly shape the opportunities available at Our Arena this year. https://forms.office.com/Pages/DesignPageV2.aspx?subpage=design&FormId=Ors2DDw07kKfFk8X_zexu3pMEb-

buppOk8_NWUP1sFJUODVHR0VSRk1XNjA5SzgXWjlGUzczU1A5Vy4u&Token=d637ee3002be4d48beb99d871c45b0b8

Year 7 Residential – Condover Hall

We're delighted to invite our Year 7 students to a residential trip at Condover Hall, Shropshire, taking place from Monday 29th September to Wednesday 1st October. This exciting 3-day, 2-night experience is designed to help students forge new friendships, build confidence, and develop teamwork skills as they begin their secondary school journey. Consent forms will be distributed on Monday 8th September and must be returned by Friday 12th September - places will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Further details about a Residential Information Evening will be shared shortly. For any enquiries, please contact Mr Crawford at dcrawford@corearena.academy. We look forward to seeing all students take part in this unforgettable adventure!

Upcoming events

Year 6 Open Evening - Thursday 18th September

It always comes around quickly that as soon as we welcome our new Year 7 students, we start to think about our cohort for 2026/27. If you are aware of anyone who has a child in Year 6 and is interested in joining Arena Academy in September 2026, please inform them of this date. We will also send information to them via their Primary Schools. We have been heavily oversubscribed in recent years. For more information about the open evening and tours, please click here: [Open Days - Arena Academy](#)

Year 11 'Going for Gold' Webinar - Tuesday 23rd September

To ensure that Year 11 are fully ready for the GCSE's this year, we will be holding a session for parents and students. The aim is to outline what is required for Year 11 students in order to obtain the best results they can. We will outline the revision sessions and materials available, revision techniques they can adopt, how parents can support their child plus much more. All parents and students are welcome to attend. Please find attached a poster with more information.

Year 7 Settling in Evening - Thursday 2nd October

This is for Year 7 Form Tutors to meet with parents and discuss how well their child has settled into school. More information will be sent closer to the date, but please pencil this date in your calendar. Please find attached a poster with more information.

The new academic year has started exceptionally well, and I have every confidence it will be another very productive and highly successful year.

Kind regards
Mr Mann