

Dear Parents and Carers,

24<sup>th</sup> January 2025

This week has been another excellent one for students as we hit the halfway point of the half term already. The students responded brilliantly to the lockdown drill on Monday and as expected, they understood the importance of the drill and how their actions can help the safety of all students and staff. Thank you for your support in warning students of this, particularly those who find such drills stressful as it allowed us to put appropriate provision in place ahead of time.

### Uniform

Can we ask that you remind students that the use of Air pods are treated as phones on school site. If they are in the student's bag turned off that is fine, but if seen in school and used they will be confiscated due to the issues they can cause with connecting to phones and our safeguarding of young people whilst in school.

Can we also clarify that only GCSE PE students should come to school in PE kit on the days that they have practical PE. All other students are expected to use the changing facilities before and after lessons. There are some students that for medical reasons (approved by the Head of Year) have separate arrangements to this and this message is not intended for them.

The Year 10 students have had an enormously busy week. They had a visit from Aim Higher about the UNIFEST opportunity available to Year 10 this summer. This is an exciting opportunity for gaining experience of university life and showing the aspiration we know that so many of our students have. Previous students from Waseley who have taken this opportunity still talk of the amazing experiences they had! The Year 10 interventions after school were well attended again this week in a number of subjects. Well done to both students and staff for going the extra mile to support progress in GCSE studies.

Year 8, 9, 10 and 11 students had a fantastic opportunity to watch a live performance of Blood Brothers at the Wolverhampton Grand Theatre yesterday evening. As part of their Music/Drama/Dance studies they gain such experiences to enhance their own development as performers and the student feedback was amazing. A highlight for us was a steward commenting to the staff that the Waseley students were by far the best-behaved school they had all day to watch the performance. Thank you especially to Miss Boyle, Mrs Edwards, Miss Ashley, Mrs Masters and Miss Loveridge for their efforts in organising the trip which meant a close to midnight finish.

All year groups began their self-reflection on their academic reports this week in tutor time. The students have been analysing their own individual attendance, Ethics, enrichment opportunity take up and grades in each subject. They have then produced action plans on their areas to focus on for the next term which will of course be shared with parents and carers at KS3 academic mentoring next Wednesday where students will leave site at 12:15pm and appointments begin from 1pm. Please see attached Mr Baker's letter from last week which outlines the arrangements for the day and evening.

Please be aware that West Mercia Police are offering free training workshops for parents around online safety and exploitation:

"In today's digital age, keeping your children safe online is more crucial than ever. For more information and to book into our workshop, visit the website [Exploitation and vulnerability training | West Mercia Police](#)"

Thank you for your continued support,

Mr T Preston



Principal

**School Early close at 12.10pm on Wednesday 29th January.**

Bookings open for Academic Mentor Meetings at 1pm Monday 20th January 2025.

KS3 Academic Mentoring Meetings take place with Form Tutors 1.30pm – 6.00pm on Wednesday 29th January.

KS4 and 5 pupils will be expected to complete Elevate independent guided study activities.

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are pleased to invite **KS3 parents/carers to our face-to-face Academic Mentoring Event on Wednesday 29th January 2025**. This will be an opportunity to seek further information about your child's progress in their subjects and gain an insight into how to best support them in their education and personal development.

Pupils and their parents/carers will have the opportunity to attend a **ten-minute meeting with their form tutor to review key information including attendance, attitude to learning, rewards, and progress data across their subjects** to gain a holistic view of their current performance and discuss with their tutor the next steps required to support them to grow as individuals.

Prior to the Academic Mentoring meetings pupils and parents/carers will receive a progress report to allow them to review this information, alongside the live information shared on Class Charts daily this provides a picture of your child's current performance. Pupils will complete, over the course of the week, a guided self-reflection activity in culture time the week before your meeting. These reflections will be shared with you and be used to structure the conversation in the mentor meeting. We are intending to help students engage in their reports and support them in their journey of improving their outcomes through this process. We will seek feedback from you as parents and carers on the afternoon/evening as we value your viewpoint on this.

KS4 parent/carers will also receive progress data and pupils will use this to set targets in tutor time to build on their current progress. KS4 parents receive separate subject based parent evenings throughout the year and will not be required to attend on Wednesday 29th January. On the afternoon of our early close pupils will be provided with a range of study skills activities to support them to improve their independent approach to learning. These will be returned to school the following day and revisited with their tutors. These activities will support Year 11 in their mock exam preparation and build good habits in Year 10 pupils ahead of their subject assessments.

**Booking – Parents/Carers please note we will now be using Arbor for booking appointments.**

Academic Mentor meetings will be ten minutes in length between 1.30pm and 6.00pm on Wednesday 29th January.

**Booking System Opening Date/Time**

Booking will open on Monday 20th January at 1pm and remain open until Tuesday 28th January 2025. Additional support and guidance can also be found for the Arbor App or Desktop Portal here: [Booking Guardian Consultations \(Parent's Evenings\) on the Parent Portal or Parent App – Arbor Help Centre \(arbor-education.com\)](#)

### **IT Support**

If you have issues accessing the booking site please email us at the address [office@waseleyhills.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:office@waseleyhills.worcs.sch.uk) clearly stating your name, child's name and the issue so we can attempt to support you as quickly as possible (please be understanding that operating school lessons is a priority and therefore our response times may not be immediate).

If you require further assistance, please contact [office@waseleyhills.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:office@waseleyhills.worcs.sch.uk).

We are excited to meet you. Please arrive 5 minutes before your appointment and enter the school via the main reception.

Kind regards,

Mr Baker