

21 July 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

End of Year Letter

Firstly, I would like to say a big thank you on behalf of myself and all of our wonderful staff here at TEMA. This year has been an incredible one for us here at TEMA with many things to celebrate. Improvements at the academy can only happen with help of our students and their families and I would like to personally extend my thanks to all members of our community who have made this year so special. As ever I feel very proud to lead our school community and this year in particular many years of hard work have been recognised as we celebrated our recent Ofsted report. Inspectors noted that the academy 'is a beacon of hope and aspiration'. I look forward to accelerating further improvements in the upcoming year to drive forward standards.

This Term's Successes

This term we have seen students achieve incredible things and take part in a range of local and national events. Our performing arts team hosted a range of events and will this week be celebrating in our Manchester Week parade. We will also be hosting a community event in partnership with a range of organisations on Friday afternoon. Please pop along from 1.30pm to take part in this event.

<https://www.theeastmanchesteracademy.co.uk/news/dream-big-beswick-2023>

This year has also seen some incredible sporting successes with our Year 7 netball team winning their league. Basketball and football have also seen some incredible success with both Year 9 and Year 11 boys winning the Manchester Cup. Our annual Prom has also taken place this term and it was a wonderful evening to celebrate the achievements of our class of 2023. We look forward to receiving their results this summer as we are expecting our best ever. I am also very proud of the ways in which students in Years 7-10 completed their end of term assessments showing our core values of hard work and ambition. Their assessment report is included with this letter and shows how they achieved throughout the year in addition to their recent end of term tests.

Summer School

As you will be aware, we are providing a range of summer activities for students to attend throughout the holidays. We know that the holidays are much needed this academic year but we also want to ensure that students can access fun and engaging enrichment experiences and keep in contact with school staff. There will also be opportunities to complete physical activities and a range of other enriching activities. The HAF scheme will run each week in August from Monday to Thursday and it's a great way to keep children active over the summer and is of no cost to parents. Students will also receive lunch and are free to bring their siblings along too.

Attendance Matters

We know that students' attendance is one of the biggest indicators of their academic and more wide success at school. However, we also understand that if students are very ill, they may not be able to attend

school. We would ask parents to ensure that all known absences are reported to the academy before 8.15 am on the day of absence to ensure we can effectively support students.

Absences should be reported through the main school line on 0161 230 8039. Please find the link to our attendance overview for parents and carers.

<https://www.theeastmanchesteracademy.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2020/05/tema-transforming-attendance-at-tema-guide.pdf>

To help with attendance and punctuality we will be making some slight alterations to the start of the academy day. The **academy day will formally begin at 8.25** and students **must be on site and in their home bases for 8.25am** so that we can ensure all students have the right equipment and mindset and are ready to learn. In line with new DFE guidance we will also be extending the academy day by 5 minutes so students will now be dismissed between:

- 3.30-3.35 on Monday and Tuesday
- 2.35-2.40 on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

The staggered dismissal helps ease the congestion on the pedestrian roads around the academy and will help when local infrastructure and building works take place on the Grey Mare Lane estate.

September Start Dates

- Students in Years 7 and 11 will return on **Tuesday 5th September at 8.25am**
- Students in Year 8, 9 and 10 will return on **Wednesday 6th September at 8.25am**

Uniform and Equipment

We expect all students to be in full academy uniform at all times. Below I enclose the uniform list that we expect from students:

<https://www.theeastmanchesteracademy.co.uk/parents/academy-uniform>

For the start of the academic year, I would particularly like to draw parents' attention to footwear and bags. Footwear must be **all black** and not include visible coloured logos. Furthermore, bags must hold A4 size books and fit in your full PE kit.

If students are not wearing the correct uniform, we will loan equipment to students or ask them to return home to change. Ensuring students wear the correct uniform and adhere to academy standards is one of the best ways to ensure students are set up for learning.

As always, we will provide students with their planners, TEMA Reads book and fully equipped pencil cases if they do not have one. We simply ask that students look after this equipment as it is at great cost to the academy. Being fully prepared and equipped for learning will ensure learning time is not wasted.

As ever, mobile phones are not allowed to be used in the academy. If an adult sees a mobile phone, they will confiscate this item until the end of the school day. This procedure helps students to learn effectively but allows them to have their mobile for safe travel to and from school. Any students not complying with this request will receive appropriate sanctions.

Behaviour and Academic Standards

In the new academic year, we will be introducing some new routines for students to help with their academic learning, behaviour expectations and progress. We are also launching a new Parent Platform in October to further strengthen communication between the academy and parents and carers. We know behaviour and student learning has improved significantly over the last two years, but we know there is more work to do to ensure students have the best education possible.

Exciting News

This term we have also been awarded a significant sum by the council to invest in our SEND facilities and specialist teaching areas for subjects such as performing arts and science. This investment will allow us to continually update our learning environment making it world class and I will be working closely with the architects to ensure that the work that takes place over the next academic year improves things even further for students and staff alike.

We are also investing in new sporting facilities building a new multi-use games area or MUGA for the students to play a range of additional sports both within and beyond the academy day.

What should I do if I have any concerns during the summer break?

Attached with this letter you will find a 'Stay Safe - Just in Case' postcard that contains useful information about external organisations that can provide advice, guidance and support to your child over the summer.

You can also use our 'Thoughts and Worries' service. Simply visit the site -

<https://www.theeastmanchesteracademy.co.uk/general/thoughts-and-worries> and report your concerns or worry.

Once again, I would like to thank you for all your support and wish you a happy and safe summer. I am very much looking forward to the new academic year and hope to see all students back bright and early in September.

Yours sincerely,

Jackie Bowen

Headteacher