



Tudor Grange Academy Solihull
Dingle Lane
Solihull
West Midlands
B91 3PD

8th September 2023

Dear Parent / Carer

It has been wonderful to welcome all of our students back to school. From the new Year 7 students to the young adults entering our sixth form in Year 12, it has been a pleasure to see them start the new term with positivity and demonstrating the Tudor Habits and Values that are so integral to the culture of the Academy.

This week, I have held assemblies for Year 7 – 13 and issued them with some updates and some key reminders about the year ahead. In my first letter to you this academic year, I want to share some of the same messages with you.

College Structure

At the start of the year, we always remind students of the college structure and ensure that they know who their College Leader and College Intervention Co-ordinators (CIC) are. The CICs are (non-teaching) staff who support the College Leader to provide academic and pastoral (including safeguarding) support.

For your information, we also have a dedicated administrator for each college. Details of this can be seen in the structure below so that you can familiarise yourself with the college team for your child(ren). The first port of call for communication should always be your child's form tutor who will re-direct the query if necessary. This year, we are also providing extension numbers for the college administrators so that you access the relevant staff on the telephone if needed.

 MIRZAKHANI	 HAWKING	 TURING	 AUSTEN	 DULEEP	 OWENS
College Leaders					
 Mr M Boyle	 Mr K Hindley	 Mrs J Fitzroy	 Mr D Wright	 Miss N Thompson	 Miss K Knowles
Intervention Co-ordinators and Safeguarding Team					
 Miss Kaur	 Ms Khalil	 Miss Harriman	 Miss Walsh	 Mrs Gray	 Mrs Payley
Administrators					
 Mrs Davis	 Ms Lam	 Mrs Abdul-Haqq	 Mrs Yuen	 Miss Ali	 Miss Love



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 National College
 for Leadership of Schools
 and Children's Services



Pupil Premium
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To contact us by telephone, please call 0121 7055100 and listen to the options. Press 1 for student services and the following extensions for the college administrators:

- 5263 – Mrs Davis (Mirzakhani college)
- 5231 – Ms Lam (Hawking)
- 5259 – Mrs Abdul-Haqq (Turing)
- 5262 – TBC (Austen)
- 5292 – Miss Ali (Duleep)
- 5265 – Miss Love (Owens)

For non-urgent queries, you can email us at office@solihull.tgacademy.org.uk and clearly state your child's name and tutor group as well as who the email is for. We are receiving a large number of emails at the moment, please do not hesitate to get back in touch if you have not had a response within 48 hours (during the school week).

Uniform

We are extremely proud of the high standards of uniform our students uphold. Thank you to the parents and carers who have supported these standards by checking ensuring that their child is following the Academy uniform policy. During uniform checks this week, we have noted issues in the following areas and would ask for your support to rectify this as soon as possible.

- Students in Years 8 – 11 should have a coloured blazer strip indicating their year group. In the case of misplaced / damaged strips, spares can be purchased from student services for £1 (we have a small supply with more on order). Year 7 students will receive their strips in the coming weeks.
- Skirts for all students (including sixth form) should not be shorter than 5cm above the knee. Please check that your child's skirt meets this requirement.
- False eyelashes and nail extensions should not be worn. Students who have returned to school with these have been issued SMART card reminders and will be kept out of circulation at break and lunchtime until the issue is resolved.
- Jewellery is not permitted for students in Years 7 – 11. Students who have had their ears pierced over the summer should be able to remove their piercings. If they cannot, they will be asked to wear plasters over piercings and will be kept out of circulation at break and lunchtime until the issue is resolved.
- Scratches, lines and patterns cut into hairstyles are not permitted. Students who have returned to school with these have been issued SMART card reminders and will be kept out of circulation at break and lunchtime until the issue is resolved. In most cases this can be easily rectified with a trip to the barber over the weekend to blend in the lines. This will save students missing their social time.

Uniform checks take place regularly in tutor time and you can monitor whether your child has been spoken to about their uniform by checking their SMART card which should be kept in their blazers at all times.





PTA

We are extremely grateful to the PTA for their ongoing hard work in providing extra funding for the school which has helped a range of departments in recent years. This area of the [website](#) includes information about the PTA, including a summary of recent purchases. We would be particularly keen to hear from parents / carers who would be willing to join this group – even giving a small amount of time would be much appreciated. Please email your interest to PTA@solihull.tgacademy.org.uk.

Open Evening

We are planning our open evening event for Thursday 5th October 2023. To prepare for the event (including a deep clean) students will finish school at 2pm on that day.

Immunisations

Monday 11th September and Tuesday 12th September we will have the Solihull Immunisation Team in to do our latest Year 9 HPV vaccinations. This will take place in Oak Hall.

Student planners

Every year, we make some changes to the student planner based on student and parent feedback. Please continue to check the planner on a regular basis, in particular the pages where merits and penalties are recorded. In the centre of the planner you will find two coloured pages. These pages outline the routines we expect students to follow in lessons and around the school. Teachers have spent time this week going through these expectations and we would appreciate if you would reiterate these messages at home. We also think that these pages will provide a useful reference point if you need to speak to your child about particular issues throughout the year.

Mobile phones

Mobile phones are not permitted in school. Please do not allow your child to bring one into school, even if switched off in their bags. If you are concerned about this and feel you need to make arrangements for your child to drop off/collect their phone please contact your child's college leader via the office email.

Behaviour Policy

Please find our updated behaviour policy [here](#). We would ask that you take the time to read this document, with a particular focus on the items that should not be brought into school. Students received these messages in assemblies this week so should be clear on what is and isn't allowed and the consequences of bringing banned items to school.

Punctuality focus

The school day starts promptly at 8.35am and students are expected to be in their tutor rooms / RHSE rooms at this time. As always with the start of a new year and five schools in close proximity, the traffic around the school site is busy at the moment. Please factor this into your travel plans in the morning. Thank you for your support with ensuring that students arrive to school on time.

Bus Passes – Message from SMBC Transport Team

School bus passes will be delivered on Monday morning ready for student collection from Student Services. From Thursday 14th September 2023, students without bus passes will not be permitted to travel on any school bus service.





In line with arrangements last year, if a student misplaces their pass, they must notify the school office and they will be provided with a temporary pass until the new pass is provided by SMBC.

Work over the summer

Over the summer, we replaced 157 windows and 15 doors. This is helping to keep the school more energy efficient and we are thrilled with our new look!



Local community

We want to ensure that we are good neighbours to those that live locally to the Academy and each year we remind students of the importance of good conduct on their journey to and from school. We would also like to remind parents / carers that they should not be parking or waiting in restricted areas. In particular, we would ask that cars are not blocking drives or waiting on yellow lines on Dingle Lane as this is regularly raised as an issue by our neighbours and is dangerous for the many students crossing the road at the end of the school day.

Safeguarding information

We have received some contextual safeguarding support from West Midlands Police Community Support Team about the increased use of a new online platform – Wizz. The police have described Wizz as an online dating site for 12+ and consider there to be a significant risk of grooming with this site. We want to ensure you have as much information as possible to keep your children safe and so would ask that you read this [guide](#). Our strong recommendation is that you do not allow your child/ren to access this platform.

This [section](#) of our website contains more guides to help you monitor your child's devices and online behaviours.





My Voice

'MyVoice' enables our students and their relatives, peers and even local community members to report safeguarding concerns to our safeguarding team electronically. Students have been made aware of this during assemblies held this week.

We believe that by providing secure, anonymous access for reporting safeguarding concerns, this will assist us in providing early intervention. It is our aim to have an open culture of safeguarding within our academy and to remove any barriers that may prevent some members of our community reporting concerns. **Safeguarding young people is everyone's responsibility.** Please visit the Academy [website](#) for more information.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support. I look forward to seeing many of you over the coming term at the various events planned. The first of these is our annual Macmillan Coffee Morning on Thursday 29th September where we will be selling makes, cakes and bakes in support of this brilliant charity. This event will be held in Oak Hall between 10am and 12noon and you and your family and friends are most welcome.

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Smith
Principal

New staff

We continue to be an over-subscribed school in every year group. To support our students, we have a growing team of staff and we have welcomed some new staff to the Academy this September. I list them below for your information.

Mr Bashir	Teacher of Science
Miss Martin	Teacher of Science
Dr Fahy	Teacher of Science
Mr Chan	Teacher of Economics
Miss Harris	Teacher of Citizenship
Mrs Lad	Teacher of English
Ms McCaffrey	Teacher of MFL
Mrs Mir-Arif	Teacher of ICT/Business
Mrs Khatoon	Teacher of IT and Computing
Mr Richards	Teacher of History
Miss Stephens	Teacher of Drama
Mrs Lee	Learning Mentor
Mrs Barlow	Learning Mentor
Mr Burns	Learning Mentor
Ms Burnham	Learning Mentor
Mrs Yeung	Lunchtime Supervisor
Mrs Liu	Lunchtime Supervisor
Mrs Lai	Lunchtime Supervisor

Calling all **TGAS** friends and family to join us for our

WORLD'S BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING

Please show your support by coming in for cake, coffee, company, games and more hosted by some of our superstar students!

Date: Wednesday 27th September
Time: 10:00 am to 11:30 am
Place: Oak Hall, Tudor Grange Academy Solihull

Cake tastes better together

All donations of cakes and home baking welcome and all proceeds go to **Macmillan Cancer Support**

For any further information please contact office@solihull.tgacademy.org.uk

MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT

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designated by
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